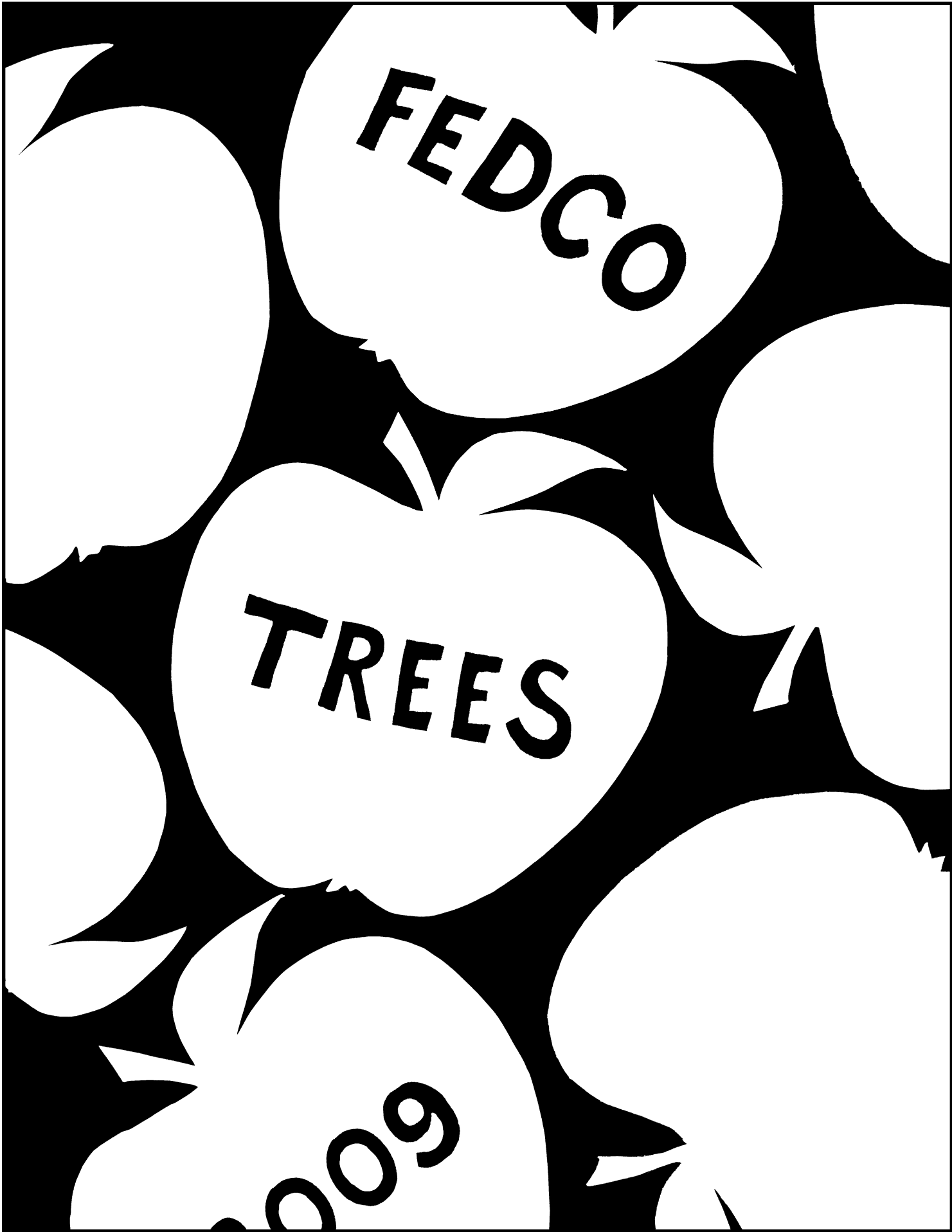




FEDCO

TREES

2009



collective carbon footprint. While reducing deforestation and increasing reforestation are both essential, afforestation is looked upon as key. More new land in trees means more water and soil retained, floods mitigated and carbon sequestered. Half a century ago, J. Russell Smith implored us to plant more trees. Among those he favored were honey locusts, black walnuts, persimmons, pecans, sugar maples and oaks. As we face the tremendous challenges ahead, these and all other tree crops are more relevant than ever. Whether we plant oaks or apples or lilacs or roses, we protect the earth for generations to come.

We do special orders. If you wish to buy large quantities of any item, larger or smaller plants than we are listing, rooted cuttings, or unusual items we're not listing, please write with particulars.

FEDCO TREES 2009

Welcome to Fedco Trees' 25th annual order. Our goal is to provide the hardiest and healthiest plants available for cold climates, while supporting small-scale, local agriculture and a fair, cooperative and responsible workplace. Our no-frills operation and volume discounts help keep plants affordable. Consider ordering in a group with co-workers, friends or neighbors to further minimize your costs.

In 1950 J. Russell Smith published *Tree Crops: A Permanent Agriculture*. For decades this one book has been an underground inspiration for those seeking alternatives to the wasteful, short-sighted, destructive practices of modern mainstream agriculture.

This past year was a weird one in central Maine. After receiving the most snow in recent memory, we were treated to a severe drought in spring and early summer, followed by relentless rain and a parade of thunderstorms. The drought, the snow, the rain, the hail, the floods all reminded me of the miracle of water and the essential role that trees play on the third planet. Trees are the water towers of nature. Their sap wood is saturated. A good-sized red oak can expire 40,000 gallons a year. Tree roots soak up run-off, hold soil and prevent erosion. Land without trees becomes land without water. Land without water is what we call desert.

Besides water, trees also store vast qualities of carbon. They take CO₂ from the air and convert it to wood where it remains for decades or even centuries. Although estimates vary as to how much carbon a typical American adds to the atmosphere and how much a typical tree collects and stores, we do know that by weight, a tree is 50% carbon. That can add up.

Vast amounts of carbon and water are also stored below the surface of the earth in humus. Where there are trees, the surface of the earth becomes a thick moist cooling mulch of leaves, twigs, roots, branches, stumps, and trunks. The roots of living trees weave through and tie the mulch together creating a rich thick carpet of humus.

Afforestation is the planting of trees where there were none. It is one of the buzzwords being used today by those attempting to reduce our

All of our trees are unconditionally guaranteed. If your tree or shrub does not grow to your satisfaction during the first growing season, please let us know! We'll send a refund or you can order a replacement the following year. We don't have a huge staff or a fancy set of offices. If we don't respond quickly, don't hesitate to remind us; we are in business to serve you. Enjoy the catalog!

Please share your experiences growing plants with us. Many of our selections originated from your suggestions. If you know of something growing near you we should be offering, or if you are interested in growing for us, please write to us. We welcome your comments, suggestions, and ideas. Thank you for your support.

John Bunker & Susan Kiralis

Check out our website: www.fedcoseeds.com
and click on Fedco Trees.

You may order online. We also post color photos of most of our trees, shrubs and perennials and a wide range of information. If you have ideas for what we should include, please let us know.

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Phone 207-873-7333

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**We guarantee the quality of our trees and plants, and warrant that all items we offer are fully satisfactory.
If you are dissatisfied for any reason, we will replace the item or refund the purchase price.**

Please inspect your order upon receipt and use the correction sheet to notify us immediately of any problems. Because good results depend upon weather, soil and cultural practices over which we have no control, we limit our liability in all instances to the purchase price. The liability of Fedco Seeds, Inc., for breach of warranty, or any loss or damages arising out of the purchase or use of our products, including loss or damages resulting from any negligence whatsoever on our part, or strict liability in tort, shall be limited to the purchase price. By acceptance of the merchandise, the buyer acknowledges that the limitations and disclaimers herein described are conditions of sale, and that they constitute the entire agreement between the parties regarding any warranty or liability. Claims for any defects in Fedco's products should be presented to Fedco as soon as possible after discovery. Failure to assert claims within 30 days after discovery renders this warranty null and void.

Ordering Information —

Order items from this catalog on a Trees 2009 **order form**, in the center of the catalog; you may submit as many pages as you need, either photocopies, forms downloaded from our website or printouts mimicking our format. To encourage you to participate in a group order and to order early, we give discounts.

Payment with check, money order or credit card must accompany all orders. We request that all orders under \$25 pay by check or MO. Make your check out to Fedco. We will bill or refund you for any adjustments as each order is completed.

We accept Visa and MasterCard. Until around January 10, we will charge your credit card when we receive your order. We will charge orders received later when we fill them.

• **Mail** your order: **Fedco Trees, PO Box 520, Waterville, ME 04903-0520**. Keep a copy of your order for your records. To confirm receipt of your order, enclose a stamped self-addressed postcard.

- **Online:** go to fedcoseeds.com and click on Fedco Trees.
- **Fax** your order: (207) 692-1022. Fax orders pay a \$2 handling fee.
- **We do not take phone orders.**

Group orders: mail us at one time all the order forms from your group members with one payment and we will ship all the orders, packaged individually, to one address. The group total earns the discount if it qualifies. Use the front of an order form for a group address and payment cover sheet. We recommend making a copy of each group member's order before you send the batch to us. We are not yet equipped to take group orders online.

Maine sales tax - for **Maine residents and pickups only**. Please add 5% sales tax.

We charge **\$10 for handling if you adjust your order**. Additions, deletions and cancellations are costly for us to process. You are welcome to place as many separate orders as you wish.

We will offer surplus for sale at the Tree Sale. Sometimes we have stock left over after the Tree Sale, but never after May 15th, when we shut down completely and go home to plant.

Our Planting Guide

is incorporated into the catalog. **Save your catalog** for planting and cultural instructions. We will not send planting guides with orders unless you request them.

Our Variety Descriptions —

All trees and plants are bare-rooted (except where noted), and even a large order can fit into a station wagon. All fruit and nut trees are well-rooted, $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{7}{8}$ " in diameter.

Fruit trees are grafted onto the hardiest standard-sized rootstocks available, except where noted. Standard trees are stronger rooted, hardier, and longer lived than dwarf or semi-dwarf trees. If you want a smaller tree, keep it pruned.

For fruit trees and berries, the **exact dates of peak ripeness** will vary from place to place.

The **zone hardiness rating** will aid you in determining whether a plant will be hardy for you. The average minimum temperature in your area determines your zone. See the chart below. Apple descriptions have minimum *and* maximum zones because apples typically need cold climates to produce the best fruit. Your own soil conditions, micro-climate and topography will be equally important in determining the best varieties for you.

Please note **pollination** requirements for fruits, nuts and berries. Some plants are self-pollinating, others require a second plant for pollination, and others require a plant of a second variety.

We strive to give you accurate information about all the plants we sell. If you notice inaccuracies, please let us know.

John writes the tree and shrub descriptions and Susan writes tender bulb and perennial descriptions.

Statements about medicinal uses of plants have not been evaluated by the FDA, and should not be used for the diagnosis, treatment, cure or prevention of any ailment. Before using or ingesting any medicinal plant, consult a healthcare practitioner familiar with botanical medicine.

USDA Hardiness Zone	Average Minimum Temperature
2	-50° to -40°
3	-40° to -30°
4	-30° to -20°
5	-20° to -10°
6	-10° to 0°

Cover by Phoebe Bunker

Discounts & Deadlines —

Discount deadline is **Friday, December 12, 2008**. Sorry, no volume discounts on later orders. Discounts apply only to orders shipped to one address.

over \$200	10% discount
over \$400	15% discount

Special discounts may be available for very large orders; please email trees@fedcoseeds.com or call (207) 873-7333 for a quote.

We fill all orders on a first-come first-served basis.

Final order deadline is **March 13, 2009**.

Shipping & Pickup —

We ship most orders **via UPS beginning in April**, and continue for about 10 days, timed according to planting zone. Our last regular ship date is around April 20. We will have a special late ship date around May 6. We do not ship at other times.

Shipping charges: All orders to be shipped pay a \$5 box charge in addition to shipping. Shipping is 10% of your adjusted total with the following minimums.

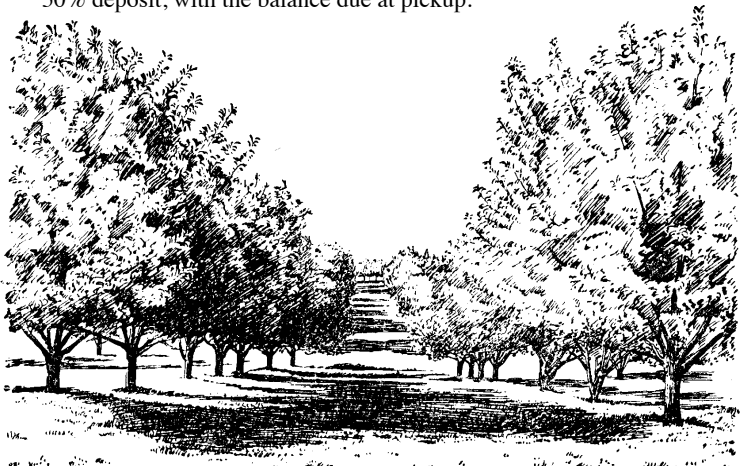
area	minimum charge
New England	\$7.00
NY, NJ and PA	\$9.00
all other states	\$14.00

We ship to Alaska via Priority Mail; include 20% for shipping (minimum \$14) and supply a postal address.

If you require a particular ship date during our regular shipping time or for shipment around May 6, **we charge an additional \$15** to cover our extra handling costs.

Pick your order up at our warehouse in Clinton, Maine, during our annual **Tree Sale**. Fri and Sat, May 1–2, are reserved for preorder customers. The public is welcome on Fri and Sat, May 8–9. Sale hours are 9:00–3:00 each day.

We recommend that preorder customers come on May 1 or 2 to shop from the biggest selection and avoid the crowds. We will send you a pickup reminder and map in April. Pickup orders may pay a 50% deposit, with the balance due at pickup.



VARIETY NAME	SEASON OF RIPENESS	AG. STATION TEST NUMBER	PARENTAGE
Obama Plum	Late Summer	11-08	(<i>Prunus americana</i> x <i>p. africans</i>)
Kansas Ag Station introduction, 1961. Pleasing proportions and graceful habit make this All-American hybrid a great centerpiece for a rose garden. Extremely resilient tree, withstands severe weather and extreme temperatures. Medium-brown 2–3" fruits with vigorous flavor will become a favorite of all who try them. Z2-10 ← ZONE RANGE			
2008 Obama Plum, \$22.00	PRICE	ITEM NUMBER	
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	MATURE HEIGHT x WIDTH	
<i>Thuja arizonensis senescens</i> 'McCain'	White Cedar	30' x 15'	
Drooping habit suggests a tired warrior. Found in gated communities and well-heeled country clubs, habit distinctly awkward. Do not use as a specimen as its strong rightward tilt is exacerbated in the lightest wind. Not presidential timber. Z8. ME Groan. (6' postmature transplants)			
1979 McCain White Cedar, \$222.00	ZONE HARDINESS RATING	GROWN BY FEDCO GROWERS CO-OP	SIZE OF PLANT STOCK

When you get your order: Immediate Care

When your new trees and plants arrive they are breaking dormancy and need to be planted as soon as possible. The longer they remain unplanted, the more stressed they become and the longer their recovery will take.



DO NOT ALLOW ROOTS TO DRY OUT AT ALL!!!

If You Intend To Plant Trees & Shrubs Within 48 Hours

Leave the plastic wrapping around the root ball. Add some water to remoisten the packing material and store your trees/plants in a cool shaded place like a shed, barn or cellar. Avoid heat and sunlight.

If You Cannot Plant Your Trees Within 48 Hours

You may keep plants for a week or two by following one of two temporary measures and continuing to water trees when they need it.

1) Remove the plastic wrap around the root ball. Store plants in a cool shaded place. Wrap the roots in wet shredded newspaper or sawdust, packing firmly to eliminate air pockets. Water thoroughly.

2) "Heel in" your plants. Dig a trench or turn back an appropriate amount of earth and bury roots; tamp firmly to remove air pockets. Water thoroughly.

Asparagus

Open up asparagus roots and store dry and uncovered in a cool shaded place.

Strawberries

Refrigerate strawberry plants until you are ready to plant them.

Perennials

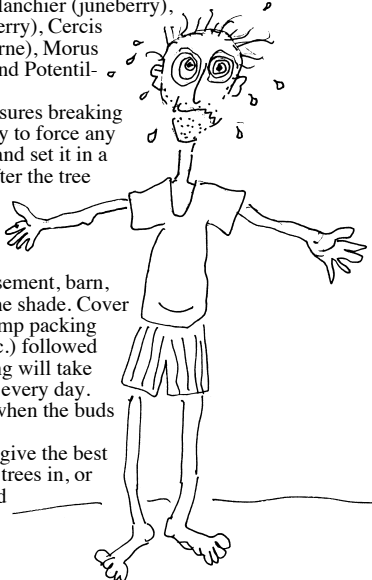
Open bags and check the stock immediately. Roots and crowns should be firm and pliable, not squishy or brittle. If they are slightly dry, add a little water or, if they are going to be potted up soon, soak the roots. Generally, a little surface mold is harmless and will not affect the plant's future performance. If you cannot pot them up immediately, store them in a cool (35-40°) location for a short time. See page 48 for details.

Sweating Nursery Stock

Some trees and shrubs become extremely dormant during refrigerated storage. These include: Amelanchier (juneberry), Betula (birch), Celtis (hackberry), Cercis (redbud), Crataegus (hawthorne), Morus (mulberry), Quercus (oak), and Potentilla (cinquefoil).

Sweating nursery stock ensures breaking of dormancy. The easiest way to force any tree to break bud is to pot it and set it in a greenhouse or polyhouse. After the tree begins to leaf out, transplant it outdoors. If you don't have a greenhouse, lay the trees in a shady place, 45-70°, such as a garage, basement, barn, greenhouse, or outdoors in the shade. Cover the whole plant with very damp packing material (hay, newspaper, etc.) followed by a sheet of plastic. Sweating will take several days; check the buds every day. The trees are ready to plant when the buds begin to swell.

Warm May weather will give the best results. Until then, heel your trees in, or store them with roots covered in a cool barn or garage.



TREE PLANTING AND CARE

Choosing a Site for Fruit Trees and Berries

The best sites for fruit crops have well-drained fertile soils, protection from wind, good air drainage, and full sun. A gentle slope and six to eight hours of full sun per day is ideal. Good air flow will moderate frosts and fungal disease. If possible, avoid "frost pockets."

Sunny south- or west-facing slopes are not advisable for less hardy varieties. These slopes tend to warm up before the danger of frost has passed. Trees may flower prematurely and then be damaged by frost, causing loss of fruit. South and west slopes may also have widely fluctuating early spring temperatures that can damage less hardy trees.

Soil pH for fruit trees should be between 5.5 and 8.0, towards the lower end for apples, the higher end for peaches, and in the middle for others. Fruit species have optimal space requirements. See chart below.

Do not plant trees where power lines will interfere with them.

Fall Preparation or Spring Initial Feeding for Fruit Trees

If you're interested in preparing locations for your trees this fall, or for feeding newly planted fruit trees, the following amendment recipe should address most sites in the eastern U.S., which tend to be acidic, and moderate to low in calcium and phosphorus. You can apply this mix as a mulch to your newly planted tree in the spring. To order any of these products, refer to the Organic Growers Supply section of our Seed catalog or website.

Deluxe Method

Without digging the hole, cover an area 4-6' in diameter with:

- 5 lbs gypsum or Hi-Cal lime
- 5 lbs colloidal phosphate (short-term calcium and phosphorus)
- 5 lbs azomite (long-term minerals and trace minerals)
- 5 lbs granite meal or greensand (for improved soil texture)
- 2-3 lbs menafee humates (aids mineral and rock-powder breakdown)
- 2-3 lbs greenstone (aids plants in nutrient uptake)

For building high levels of humus, also add:

- 2 lbs alfalfa meal
- 2 lbs bone meal
- 2 lbs kelp meal
- 2 lbs blood meal
- 100 lbs compost (1/8 yard)
- BioDynamic preps (optional)

Cover with a 3-4" mulch of lawn clippings, leaves or "brush" chips, which will smother the sod, conserve moisture, prevent leaching, and provide a habitat for soil organisms to break down the recipe. In the spring, pull back the mulch and dig your tree hole, incorporating the mineral supplements and compost into the backfill.

Simpler Method

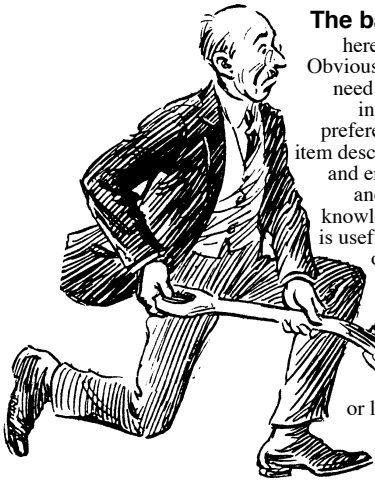
Forgo the soil amendments and simply pile 1-2 wheelbarrow loads of compost on each planting-hole site. If you live by the ocean, add a couple of wheelbarrows of seaweed. Then cover with mulch. In the spring, pull back the mulch and plant your tree, incorporating the compost into the hole as you dig.

Feeding older fruit trees

Cover the surface of the ground out to the drip line with the same materials listed above. For larger trees (five years and older) increase the mineral amount to 10-15 pounds each. For ancient trees you can add up to 25 lbs of each mineral in a ring beneath the drip line. Mulch as described above.

Plant Spacing of Fruit Trees and Berries

	between plants	between rows
Apples, Semi-dwarf	15'	15'
Apples, Standard	25-30'	25-30'
Asparagus	1-2'	4'
Blackberries	3-4'	6-12'
Blueberries, highbush	3-6'	8-10'
Blueberries, lowbush	1'	1'
Filazel	4'	hedge
Grapes	8'	8-10'
Kiwis	10'	10'
Nut trees - orchard	35'	35'
Nut trees - forest	20'	20'
Pears, Asian Pears	20'	20'
Raspberries	2'	6-12'
Stone Fruit	15-20'	15-20'
Strawberries	see instructions, p. 25	
Sweet Cherries	25'	25'



The basics of tree care are outlined here and are designed to get you going. Obviously we can't tell you everything you need to know in a few pages. Additional information, such as location and soil preferences, about specific plants is in the item descriptions. Reading, observation, trial and error, and talking with other growers and extension agents can expand your knowledge of trees and shrubs. A soil test is useful in determining the specific needs of your site.

Consult the Fedco Seeds catalog, Organic Growers Supply section, book list for some recommended reference books, or look for information on the internet. There are many useful links at our website, www.fedcoseeds.com.

General Planting Directions for Trees and Shrubs

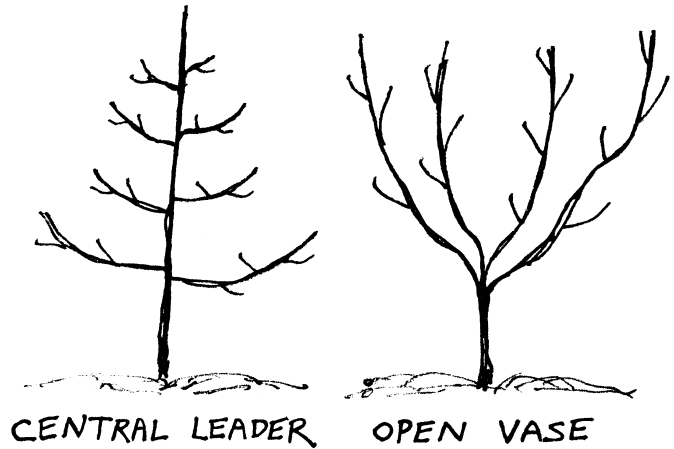
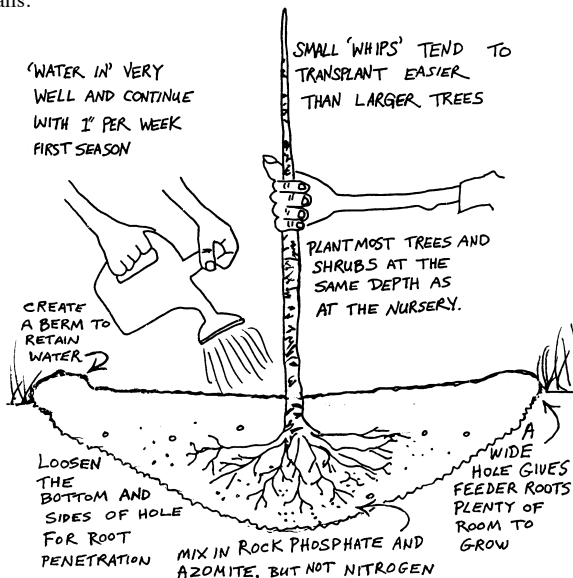
Dig a large hole, at least twice as wide and about as deep as the root system. Most roots grow laterally and need plenty of room to spread out. Your trees will benefit if the hole is at least 3' wide. Loosen up the soil at the bottom of the hole and especially around the sides. For fruit trees, if you haven't used a deluxe fall preparation, you may add a 3-pound bag of our planting mix (available from the Organic Growers Supply section of the Fedco Seeds catalog), or well-aged compost and mineral fertilizers such as rock phosphate, but not manure or other nitrogen sources. We add about a coffee-can of rock phosphate for each fruit tree. You may also add a handful of azomite at this time. Replace the topsoil around the roots where it will do the most good. If you situate non-fruit trees according to their requirements, there is no need to add any supplements to your soil. This is the best way to ensure that your plants will thrive for many years.

For best results plant on cool cloudy days in the early morning or late afternoon. Soak deciduous trees and shrubs for up to 24 hours before planting. Keep the roots from drying out. Even a few minutes in the sun and breeze can kill a tree or shrub. Keep them in a bucket of water as you plant.

Generally you should plant trees and shrubs at the same depth that they grew in the nursery. Plant semi-dwarf or dwarf fruit trees with the graft 2" above ground level. Spread the roots out as you set the trees in the holes. Make a mound at the bottom of the hole over which to spread the roots. Give your trees plenty of water to "puddle in" as you plant. Wiggle the trunk as the water seeps in to ensure that the roots are settled in with no air pockets. Leave a berm around each tree so that water will seep in and not run off. Keep them well watered throughout the first summer. They require the equivalent of 1-2" rain per week. A good soaking is effective; sprinkling is not.

Initial Pruning

Prune dead or injured branches and roots on all trees and shrubs. Further pruning of most trees is not necessary at planting time. Do not prune tops or prune or bend tap roots of nut trees. Specific preplanting pruning requirements for small fruits and some ornamentals is noted in their respective sections and more general information on pruning begins on p. 38. Conifers (p. 30) and roses (pp. 42-43) require special pruning. See their sections for details.



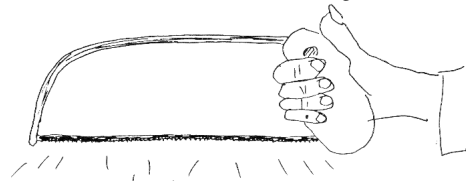
Pruning Fruit Trees

Avoid pruning young trees except to establish a basic shape. Pruning young trees delays bearing. On apple and pear trees, leave the central leader alone and let it grow. It's ok to cut off extra trunks and large branches. Always remove suckers or root shoots from fruit trees. On peaches and plums, the trees may want to develop 2-4 leaders, or an open-vase shape. Always prune just above a good strong bud that faces a direction you'd like your plant to grow.

Pruning your young apple tree

Think seriously about establishing the long-term shape of your apple tree when it is young. How you shape your tree is largely a matter of personal preference. We grow only standard trees. We want the lowest scaffold (branch layer) to be very wide to collect as much sun as possible. If too low, these long branches will rest on the ground under the weight of fruit and deer will have a field day. Plus, it becomes difficult to mow, mulch, etc. We recommend training standard apple trees to have the first scaffold at about 4-6' high.

Once the tree begins to bear you will want to prune annually. Good pruning brings sunlight to all parts of your tree. Maximum sunlight encourages more and higher-quality fruit. Sunlight also encourages fruit buds to form for next year's crop. A well-pruned tree will produce larger fruit and will tend toward more annual bearing. Good pruning discourages fungal diseases and promotes greater spray penetration. There's an old saying that a bird should be able to fly through your fruit tree. Any good book on growing fruit trees will provide you the information you need. Pruning is not difficult to do and will make a huge difference.



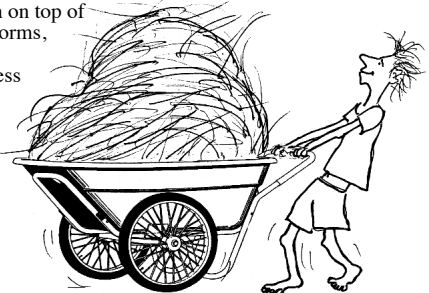
Most pruning should be done in late winter or early spring, although some say the best time to prune is when you have your clippers in your hand. We recommend a good-quality pair of hand shears and a lightweight pruning saw. You may also wish to invest in long-handled loppers, a pole pruner or a pole saw. Keep your pruning tools sharp for smooth, clean cuts.

Consult old and new books as well as orcharding articles and develop a system that works for you.

Weeping crabapples require special pruning. See p. 36 for instructions.

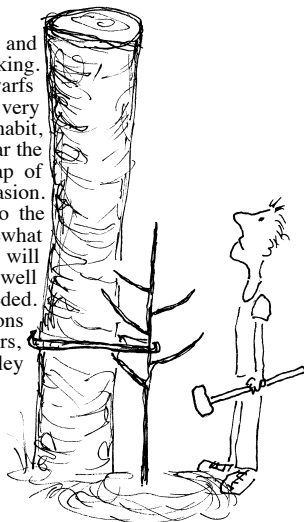
Mulch

Keep weeds and especially grass away from new trees and shrubs. Apply a 2-4" mulch of composted material, leaves, wood chips or hay out as far as the drip line. A 1/2-1" topdressing of alfalfa meal beneath the mulch may substantially reduce transplant shock. Keep mulch back several inches from the tree trunks. We lay down cardboard or newspaper and spread mulch on top of it. Mulch encourages earthworms, holds moisture, keeps down weeds, insulates against excess heat and cold, aerates and loosens soils, builds humus and fertilizes feeder roots, 90% of which are within 6" of the surface.



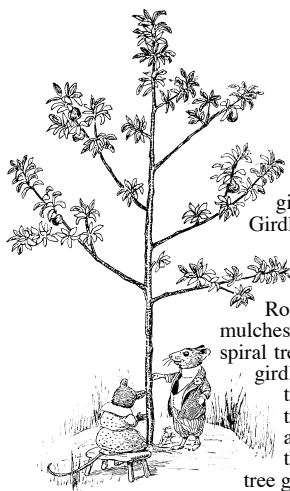
Staking

Newly planted standard-sized fruit trees and ornamental trees seldom need staking. Dwarf trees require staking. Semi-dwarfs may require staking. If your tree is in a very windy site or develops a leaning habit, staking may help. Drive a stout post near the tree. Wrap the tree trunk with a scrap of burlap or rubber to protect against abrasion. Secure the wrapped part of the tree to the post with string or wire. Tie the tree somewhat loosely, as a slight rocking motion will encourage rooting. Once roots are well anchored, the stake may not be needed. Mark small trees with a stake with ribbons to warn operators of lawn mowers, tractors, cars, skidders and Bradley armored vehicles.



Mouse/Vole Protection

Fruit trees and ornamentals are sometimes girdled by mice or voles eating the bark. Girdling will usually kill the tree or shrub. The danger is greatest in winter. Keep the grass mowed in the fall and remove large mulch piles from near the trunks. Rodents like to nest in hay more than in chip mulches. A wrap of window screening or a plastic spiral tree guard will protect your tree from being girdled. If you use screening or plastic spiral tree guards on apple, quince or crabapple trees, remove them from April to October, as they attract borers if left on the tree in the summer. You can leave plastic spiral tree guards on most other trees year round.

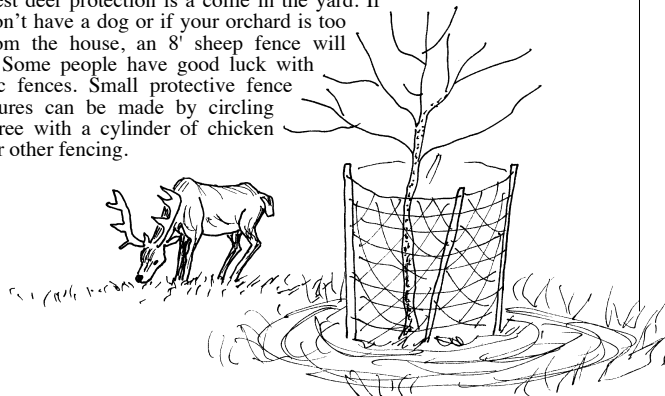


BUT, BE SURE
TO REMOVE
THEM IN
THE SPRING
AS THEY
ATTRACT
BORERS
ON APPLES,
QUINCE
AND
CRABS

IN THE WINTER, A
'TREE GUARD' WILL
PROTECT TREES
FROM RODENT DAMAGE

Oh Dear, Deer!

The best deer protection is a collie in the yard. If you don't have a dog or if your orchard is too far from the house, an 8' sheep fence will work. Some people have good luck with electric fences. Small protective fence enclosures can be made by circling your tree with a cylinder of chicken wire or other fencing.



Beware of the Apple Borer!

In many parts of central and northern New England the roundheaded appletree borer (*Saperda candida*) is the **number one enemy** of young apple, crabapple and quince trees. If you are growing young apple trees in these locations, you must protect your trees from this pest. Farther south and north the borer *may* not be a pest. If you don't know if they are a problem in your area, check with any grower near you: they'll know. Otherwise, err on the side of caution. The borer does not endanger other fruit trees or ornamentals.

The borer beetle lays its eggs under the bark near the base of the tree. The developing larvae tunnel through the wood, eventually weakening the tree until it crumbles and falls over. The trouble sign is small deposits of orange sawdust, called frass, at the base of the tree, usually appearing in June or July. Left unchecked, borers usually mean death for your trees.

Borers thrive in shady moist warm environments. Keep grass back at least 6" from the tree base. Activity is most prevalent in June and July. Keep a lookout for the frass. Locate the hole or soft spot in the trunk and insert a wire until you locate and kill the larvae. Cut away soft, spongy pockets with a knife. Even serious carving is less harmful to the tree than leaving the larvae alive inside.

After years of experimentation, I think that **painting is the best deterrent**. I've tried a number of recipes and this is my favorite. It's easy and requires no hard-to-find ingredients. Mix white *interior* latex paint with joint compound. (The stuff you smear on sheet rock joints and nail holes—you can buy a small tub at any hardware store. Some exterior paint formulations contain ingredients that can harm the underlying phloem.) The consistency should be thick but still quite easy to paint, not glob on. Repaint periodically or each year as needed. This mix will help deter borers. It will also make for easy detection of any infestation you may have. Look for the frass! Using the paint method, you will also need to put some sort of screen or plastic rodent protector around the trunk during the winter months.

This year we experimented with a new borer-protection formula using only ingredients allowed for organic certification. It doesn't last or adhere as well as the paint-joint compound mixture, but it appears to work fairly well. I'm hopeful. And, you can use it in your organic orchard.

2 qt quick lime
4 gal milk
1 gal linseed oil

Mix well. Thicken as needed with clay or Surround (available in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Fedco Seeds catalog). Apply with a paint brush. Reapply as needed.

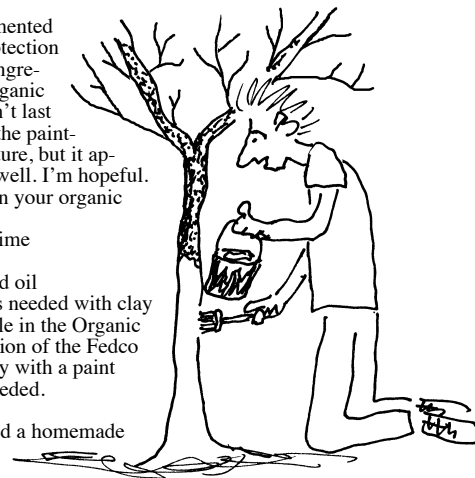
For many years I used a homemade

"screen saver"

wrapped around the

young trees to deter borers. No

more. I've given up and switched to the paint method. I recommend you do too.



Aphids and ants

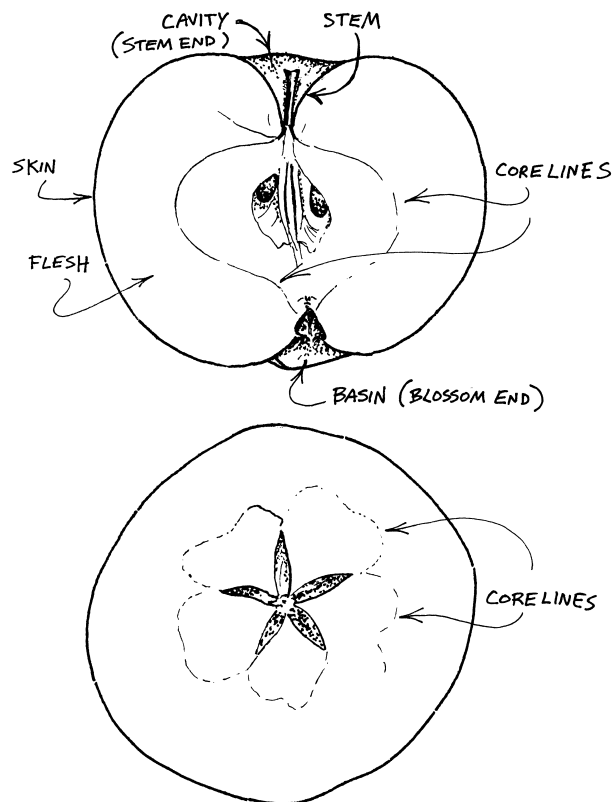
Aphids can do a lot of damage to apple trees and they make the young leaves look gross. Here's an easy solution. Wrap a piece of stiff paper about 6" wide around the trunk about a foot or two off the ground. Tape this "sleeve" to itself but not to the tree. Smear tangle foot on the paper. In a day or two no more aphids.





Choosing the right apple!

Item	Name	Zones	Suitable for Coldest Spots	Season	Uses	Best apples for						
						All- Around	Fall Eating	Storage	Cooking	Pies	High Flavor	Cider
0028	Ashmead's Kernel	4-7		winter	dessert			🍏			🍏	🍏
0045	Baldwin	4-6		winter	all purpose	🍏		🍏	🍏	🍏		🍏
0063	Belle De Boskoop	4-6		winter	cooking				🍏	🍏		
0077	Black Oxford	4-5		winter	all purpose	🍏		🍏	🍏	🍏		🍏
0118	Calville Blanc	4-7		fall	all purpose	🍏	🍏		🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏
0156	Chestnut	3-5	🍏	fall	all purpose	🍏	🍏				🍏	
0166	Connell Red	3-5	🍏	winter	all purpose	🍏		🍏				
0170	Cortland	4-5		fall	all purpose	🍏	🍏		🍏			
0176	Cox's Orange Pippin	4-6		fall	dessert		🍏				🍏	🍏
0216	Duchess of Oldenburg	3-4	🍏	summer	all purpose	🍏			🍏	🍏		
0220	Dudley Winter	3-4	🍏	fall	all purpose	🍏	🍏		🍏	🍏		
0245	Esopus Spitzenburg	4-7		winter	all purpose	🍏		🍏			🍏	🍏
0272	Fletcher Sweet	4-6		fall	all purpose	🍏	🍏		🍏			
0280	Freedom	4-6		fall	dessert		🍏					
0282	Frostbite (MN 447)	4-6		winter	dessert		🍏	🍏			🍏	
0291	Garden Royal	4-6		summer	dessert		🍏				🍏	
0319	Golden Russet	4-6		winter	all purpose	🍏		🍏			🍏	🍏
0329	GoldRush	4-7		winter	dessert			🍏			🍏	🍏
0341	Gravenstein	4-7		latesummer	cooking	🍏			🍏	🍏		
0386	Honeycrisp	3-4	🍏	winter	dessert		🍏	🍏			🍏	🍏
0426	Jefferis	4-7		fall	dessert		🍏				🍏	
0452	Keepsake	3-5	🍏	winter	all purpose	🍏		🍏				
0475	Liberty	4-6		fall	cooking	🍏	🍏					🍏
0515	Mantet	3-4	🍏	summer	all purpose	🍏			🍏			
0522	McIntosh	4-5		fall	all purpose	🍏	🍏		🍏			
0570	MN 1734	3-6	🍏	winter	cider							🍏
0621	Northern Spy	4-6		winter	all purpose	🍏		🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏
0768	Red Astrichan	3-5	🍏	summer	cooking				🍏	🍏		
0772	Red Baron	3-4	🍏	winter	all purpose	🍏						
0808	Redfield	4-6		fall	cooking				🍏	🍏		
0810	Redfree	4-6		summer	all purpose	🍏	🍏		🍏			
0825	Rhode Island Greening	4-7		fall	all purpose	🍏			🍏	🍏		
0851	Roxbury Russet	4-6		winter	all purpose	🍏		🍏			🍏	🍏
0876	Scott's Winter	3-5	🍏	winter	cooking			🍏	🍏	🍏		
0918	Somerset of Maine	4-5		fall	all purpose	🍏			🍏	🍏		
0955	Starkey	4-5		fall	dessert		🍏				🍏	
0991	Summer Sweet	4-6		summer	all purpose				🍏			
1017	Sweet Sixteen	3-6	🍏	fall	dessert		🍏				🍏	🍏
1054	Trailman	3-4	🍏	fall	dessert						🍏	
1130	Wealthy	3-4	🍏	fall	all purpose	🍏	🍏		🍏	🍏		
1153	Williams Pride	4-7		summer	dessert						🍏	
1190	Wolf River	3-5	🍏	fall	cooking				🍏			
1202	Yellow Bellflower	4-6		winter	all purpose	🍏		🍏	🍏	🍏		
1214	Yellow Transparent	3-5	🍏	summer	cooking				🍏			



Apples *Malus* spp. Some definitions: **Summer apples** ripen in summer, are generally crisp only for a short period, do not store well, and are often best for cooking. **Fall apples** store longer and are useful for a wide variety of purposes. **Winter apples** ripen mid to late fall, store well, and reach their best flavor after weeks, or even months, of storage. **Dessert apples** are delicious eaten raw. **Subacid** means tart! **Russet** or **russeting** is a skin texture (fairly common on apple varieties and characteristic of a few pears and potatoes) which looks and feels somewhat like suede. **Bloom** is a naturally occurring dust-like film on the skin of some varieties of apples, plums and grapes.

Each variety has a **climate range** where it will thrive and produce its best fruit. At the end of each apple description we list a range of zones. For example, Z3-4 signifies that this apple will reach perfection in Zones 3 and 4 and that we don't recommend it farther south even though it would be plenty hardy. Z4-6 means that this apple will reach perfection in Zones 4, 5 or 6. We suggest that you use this guide to select apples most appropriate to your area.

Choosing a variety: not every variety is right for you. It's not just about what tastes good. They all taste good to someone. It's a case of "different strokes for different folks." **All-purpose** apples are just that. They are good for a bunch of jobs. If I were planting just one tree, I'd start there. However if you're a history buff, consider the historical varieties and maybe plant one that originated nearby. If you don't eat many apples but love pies, go for the pie apples. If you're a dessert connoisseur, skip all the others and go for the highly flavored dessert varieties. Some are strictly for cider. Some are great to put out at the camp for summer use. Some are perfect for those who want fall fruit but don't have winter storage facilities. Others keep all winter and into the following summer. Read the descriptions and check out the chart on page 7. If you have a question about a specific variety, drop me an email. I'll try to help!

Some people wonder why we **graft our apples onto Antanovka standard rootstock**. Standard trees have deep, substantial—and therefore harder—root systems. By selecting the varieties appropriate to your district, grafted on standard rootstock, you may well be planting a tree that will be picked by your grandchildren's grandchildren. Standard trees will grow to be large, but you can keep them trimmed. My largest trees are now about 25 years old. The tallest are still well under twenty feet.

Although standard-sized apple trees may be planted as close as 10–15' apart, they were typically planted 30' apart in 19th-century orchards. We generally plant trees 20–25' apart with good results.

Apple trees are adaptable to a variety of soils and climates, though they prefer well-drained fertile soil. See pages 4–5 for information on soil preparation and planting. Varieties bearing annually are noted; others normally bear every other year. With diligent annual pruning and thinning, most apples will produce an annual crop, one heavy, the next light.

All apple trees require a second variety for pollination, but any apple or crabapple within a quarter mile will probably do. (We provide 3½ to 6' trees.)

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.

Ashmead's Kernel Winter. Unknown parentage. Gloucester, England, about 1700. Possibly a seedling of Nonpareil. An after-dinner apple of unparalleled quality. Not for those who like mild sweet apples. Each bite is an intense aromatic sting of sharp and sweet, with hints of other indescribable but absolutely wonderful tastes and aftertastes. This apple could be served as dessert at the fanciest gathering of your most discerning friends. Beginning to show up here and there in commercial orchards. Makes a top quality hard cider, blended or alone. Medium-small oblate and lopsided orange-gold-green russet fruits. Ripens in October. Store until New Year's to reach perfection. Keeps until they're all gone. Moderately vigorous tree may bear irregularly, but it's worth the wait. Somewhat scab resistant. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. **ME Grown**.

0028 Ashmead's Kernel, \$22.00

Baldwin Winter. Wilmington, MA, about 1740. Also called **Butters Apple** or **Woodpecker**. Discovered on the Butters Farm by a surveyor planning the Middlesex Canal and noted as a favorite site for local woodpeckers. Scions from the original tree were grafted and growing in Maine by 1810, and by 1850 Baldwin was the standard all-purpose home and commercial variety wherever it was grown. It remained dominant in Maine until the terrible winter of 1934 when tens of thousands of trees perished and McIntosh became king. Large round-conic thick-skinned fruit. Light yellow skin almost entirely blushed, mottled and striped with red and deep carmine. Hard crisp juicy yellowish flesh makes excellent eating and keeps till spring. Vigorous adaptable hugely productive long-lived healthy tree. When grower Dave Gott asked the late renowned entomologist Ron Prokopy his opinion of Baldwin, Ron replied that the apple is "not practical commercially due to biennialism but the *only* apple that is both disease and insect resistant." Hardest in well-drained upland and north slopes. Massachusetts' most famous apple where it grows to perfection. Also extremely nice here in central Maine. Blooms early to mid-season. Z4-6. **ME Grown**.

0045 Baldwin, \$22.00

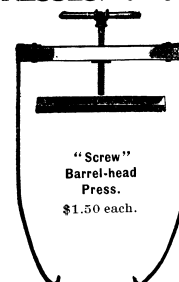
Belle de Boskoop Winter. Probably a chance seedling from Holland, 1860. May also be a synonym or mutation of Montfort. Every chef in Europe knows Boskoop. It cooks beautifully. Pronounced 'Bos-ko' in Holland and 'Bos-kup' in Germany, we found it in a Milano market as "Bella Del Bosco." Long the farm apple of Europe; every backyard had a Boskoop. Big blocky somewhat lumpy green fruit largely patched and netted with russet. Sometimes a brownish reddish blush. Cooks up quickly into a nice sauce: yellow, soft and medium tart. The cooking apple for pies, compotes and even that pastry dubbed Apple Berliner. Most people would find the fruit too sour or astringent off the tree. However, after storage, the acidity softens and it becomes a decent table apple. Keeps well. Robust, strong-growing tree. Blooms early. Triploid, not a pollinator for other varieties. Z4-6. **ME Grown**.

0063 Belle De Boskoop, \$22.00

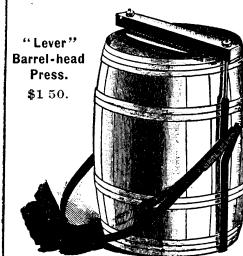
Black Oxford Winter. Unknown parentage. Paris, Oxford County, ME, about 1790. This outstanding apple, a favorite long ago around much of Maine, has been making a huge comeback in the last 20 years. Our best seller until Honeycrisp came along. Medium-sized round fruit, deep purple with a blackish bloom. From a distance you might think you'd discovered a huge plum tree. A 200-year-old Black Oxford tree still grows in Hallowell, and still bears large crops. Excellent pies, superb late cider. Leave the skins on for a delightful pink sauce. Best eating late December to March. They seem to get sweeter and sweeter as the months go by. Good cooking until early summer. Some insect and disease resistance. Unusual light pink blooms, late to midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown**.

0077 Black Oxford, \$22.00

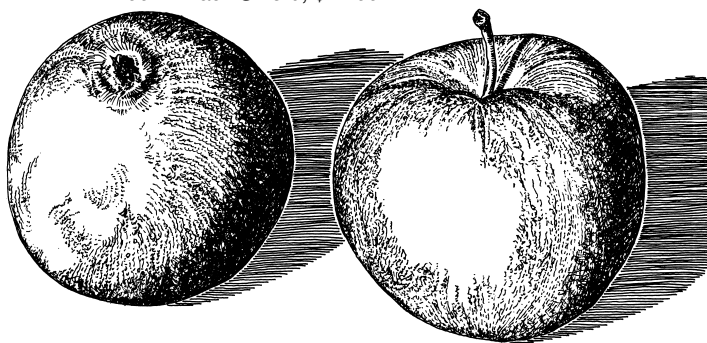
BARREL-HEADING PRESSES.

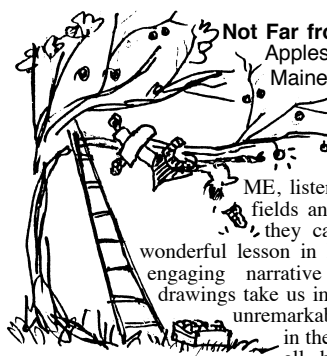


"Screw" Barrel-head Press.
\$1.50 each.



"Lever" Barrel-head Press.
\$1.50.





Not Far from the Tree: A Brief History of the Apples and the Orchards of Palermo, Maine, 1804-2004 by John Bunker, 200 pages, 8 1/2 x 11, softcover.

John reveals how he came to know so much about apples—he spent years talking to his neighbors in Palermo, ME, listening to their stories and walking their fields and orchards learning the varieties, how they came to be planted there and why. A wonderful lesson in Maine history as told by apples. His engaging narrative and informative drawings take us into the rich diverse past of a seemingly unremarkable town. A history of agriculture told in the apple trees. Many long abandoned and all but forgotten, some nursed back to health, and some finding new life as scionwood that begets generations of apple trees from Fedco. John is a colleague and a friend and I confess that I am not a disinterested reviewer. I even have a tiny part in his story—I taught him how to make an apple pie. John's love of apples and affection for his neighbors and town speak clearly through each page. Copiously illustrated in John's unmistakable style. —David Shipman

We will donate \$5 from the sale of each book to the Palermo Historical Society. Also available year-round from Organic Growers Supply.

7509 *Not Far from the Tree*, \$22.00

Calville Blanc d'Hiver Winter. Unknown parentage. France or Germany, 16th century. Also called **White Winter Calville**. Famous as a dessert and cooking apple for over 400 years. Steve Woods of Poverty Lane orchards in Lebanon, NH, called it "the best culinary apple in the world." Large flattish pale green-yellow fruit with uneven lumpy ribs and a dotted orange-red blush. Creamy-white aromatic fine-grained juicy flesh with a sweet distinctive, effervescent flavor. Smooth when baked. Recommended for vinegar, fresh cider and as a sharp (acid) component in fermented cider. Should be stored a month to reach peak flavor. Will keep until mid-winter. Not for coldest areas though Steve is growing it with great success up near Dartmouth College. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

0118 *Calville Blanc*, \$22.00



Chestnut Early Fall. MN 240 (Malinda x open-pollinated) U Minn, 1946. A lot of people love this apple. Small golf-ball-sized fruit with truly excellent fresh eating qualities. Yellow and bronze-red skin with some russetting. Firm crisp juicy fine-grained very sweet yellowish flesh. The apple version of Sun Gold tomatoes. For a growing number of people in central Maine, late September is Chestnut apple time. Every year we put out a bushel a day at Fedco's booth at the Common Ground Fair and watch them disappear. Neophytes often look at the fruit with disdain. Most however take one bite and their frowns turn to smiles. (For some, despite its crispness and depth of flavor, it is *too* sweet.) Chestnut needs no sugar to make a sweet and subtle sauce. Not a keeper, but can be stored for a month or so. Vigorous, somewhat weeping, medium-sized productive tree. Disease resistant. Also beautiful in bloom, midseason. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

0156 *Chestnut*, \$22.00

Connell Red Winter. Uncertain origin, WF Connell introduction, Menomonie, WI, 1957. Large very hardy high-quality all-purpose storage variety. Solid bright red oblate-conic fruit sprinkled with pinpoint white dots like stars in a red sky. Juicy distinctively flavored flesh. Keeps in the root cellar until April or even May. The accepted story has always been that Connell Red resulted from a bud sport (mutation) of the excellent Minnesota winter apple Fireside. Recent evidence from various undisclosed sources seems to disprove that allegation. It now appears as though the variety originated as a *seedling* rather than a bud sport in the same orchard with Fireside. Another mystery uncovered? Maybe...maybe not. Blooms mid-season. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

0166 *Connell Red*, \$22.00

Cortland Fall-Winter. (Ben Davis x McIntosh) NY Stn, 1915. A cross between two commercial giants at the time, one (Ben Davis) on the way out and the other (McIntosh #0522) on the way in. Although never as important as McIntosh, Cortland remains a very popular apple throughout northern New England even in this era of many new introductions. Medium to medium-large slightly ribbed dull red fruit with a purple blush. Excellent eating and cooking. Slow-oxidizing white flesh is very good in salads; fine-grained, crisp, tender, juicy. Produces a surprisingly delightful cider, fresh or fermented, in a mix or even on its own. Vigorous tall upright spreading tree with reddish bark. Annual producer of heavy crops. A recent U. Mass. study showed resistance to apple maggot fly. Bears young; remove fruit for the first year or two to avoid stunting growth. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

0170 *Cortland*, \$22.00

Cox's Orange Pippin Fall. Possibly a seedling of Ribston Pippin. Near Slough, Bucks, England, around 1825. Deservedly one of the most famous of all apples. Not only one of the best eating apples ever but also the parent of many other great varieties. Revered in the U.K. Medium-sized all-purpose aromatic fruit is red-orange to red with russet striping and wash. Perfectly balanced slightly subacid flavor and crisp juicy tender flesh improve with storage. Moderately vigorous moderately productive tree bears young and annually. Prefers cooler climates and higher pH (6.5-7.5+). Scab resistant. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

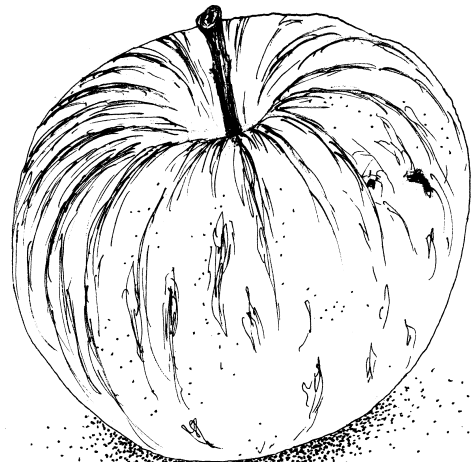
0176 *Cox's Orange Pippin*, \$22.00

Duchess of Oldenburg Late Summer. Russia, 17th c. Also called **Duchess**. In 1835 the Massachusetts Horticultural Society imported the first of many apple varieties from Russia. These were Alexander, Tetofsky, Red Astrichan and Duchess of Oldenburg. Duchess was planted extensively wherever growers needed extreme hardiness and is still quite popular in most of northern New England. Aroostook County's favorite apple. Thought to be a parent of the famous Canadian variety New Brunswick and parent of Dudley Winter (#0220). Medium-sized round red-striped fruit is irregularly splashed and mottled with crimson. Yellow firm fine-grained crisp tender juicy subacid aromatic flesh. Highly esteemed for all sorts of cooking; Duchess is one of the best pie apples for coldest districts. Makes a pie with a tart flavorful zip and cooks up quickly into thick creamy delicious sauce. Prolific precocious small to medium-sized adaptable tree. Duchess seedlings are used as an extremely hardy rootstock called Borowinka. Scab resistant. Blooms early. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

0216 *Duchess of Oldenburg*, \$22.00

Dudley Winter Fall. (Duchess x Hyslop Crab) Castle Hill, ME, about 1877. Also called **Dudley** and **North Star**. The story goes that orchardist John Wesley Dudley's daughter Grace planted seeds from a Duchess tree pollinated by a Hyslop crab. The resulting seedling became the most widely planted new variety in the North at the turn of the previous century. Probably the most well-known Maine apple outside the state. Medium-sized roundish slightly flattened fruit is vibrant shiny buttery yellow, overspread with radiating red stripes and splashes. Firm but tender, juicy aromatic subacid flesh for fresh eating and cooking. In northern areas—where it reaches its prime—it also keeps into winter. Small vigorous spreading drooping tree crops annually and begins bearing young. Our scionwood comes from a small abandoned orchard just north of Castle Hill. Extremely hardy. Blooms early-mid. Natural semi-dwarf. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

0220 *Dudley Winter*, \$22.00



Esopus Spitzenburg Fall-Winter. Unknown parentage. Esopus, NY, 18th century. A choice dessert and culinary apple, mentioned in nearly every list of best-flavored varieties. Slightly subacid, crisp and juicy. Famous for being Thomas Jefferson's favorite apple. For years I figured that meant it was a warm-weather tree and shouldn't be in the catalog. Then I discovered an old tree in Maine and learned that Tom was forever frustrated by his inability to grow Spitz down south. Medium-large bright-red round to mostly conic fruit, covered with russet dots, not unlike a slightly more conical Starkey. Excellent acid source for sweet or fermented cider. Moderately vigorous tree, with easily trained wide-angle branches. Bears moderate crops. Susceptible to scab though I don't spray mine and have been happy with the fruit quality. Blooms mid to late season. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

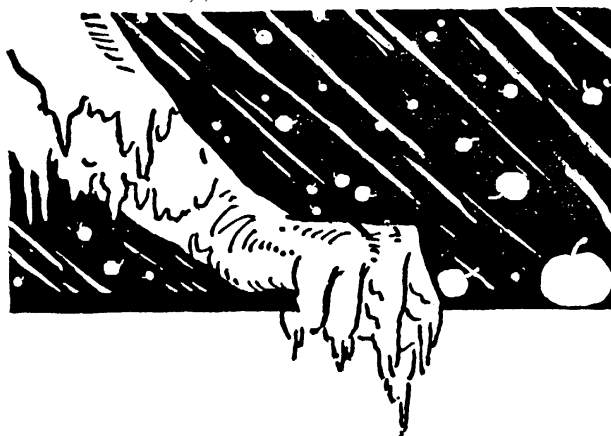
0245 *Esopus Spitzenburg*, \$22.00

Fletcher Sweet Early Fall. Unknown parentage. Jonathan Fletcher Farm, Lincolnville, ME, 19th c. Discovered in the fall of 2002 with the help of Lincolnville historians Rosey Gerry and Diane O'Brien and local farmer Clarence Thurlow. More recently, we located a second specimen in nearby Hope. Medium solid green fruit looks like Tolman Sweet but with a russet netting and an occasional orange blush. Very white crystalline flesh with a slightly green tinge. Refreshing, mild, incredibly juicy and very crisp without being hard. Snaps when you take a bite. The texture reminds me of an Asian pear, a water chestnut, or maybe a perfect radish. The flesh, however, dissolves in your mouth. Makes a light-textured loose yellow sauce with a hint of blackberry. Keeps until about December. No scab. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0272 *Fletcher Sweet*, \$22.00

Freedom Late Summer-Early Fall. [NY 18492 (Macoun x Antanovka)] x NY 49821-46 [Golden Delicious x F2 26829-2-2 ((Rome x *M. floribunda* 821) x (Rome x *M. floribunda* 821))] NY Stn, 1983. All-purpose variety from the same disease-resistant-apple breeding program that developed Liberty. Medium-large round-conic smooth-skinned fruit entirely covered with bright-red stripes. Juicy firm spicy-flavored flesh. Keeps until New Years. Vigorous spreading productive annually bearing precocious tree. Considered to be scab immune. Recommended as a pollinator for other varieties. Blooms midseason. Z 4-7. **ME Grown.**

0280 *Freedom*, \$22.00



Frostbite Fall-Winter. MN 447. Malinda open pollinated. U Minn, 2007. Seed planted at the University of Minnesota before 1936, but unnamed until 2008. This massively flavored dessert apple—not for the faint of heart—provides a whole new level of culinary experience. Likely the most distinctive and unusual apple I've ever tried. Astonished friends have described its flavor as strange, molasses, olives, fabulous, sweet, complex and sugar cane. The roundish fruit is medium-sized and entirely covered with dark bluish-purple stripes. The aromatic crisp crystalline flesh is an apricot-orange color with occasional red staining, so juicy it'll run down your hand. Years ago David Bedford of the University of Minnesota said they would never release it because it didn't taste like an apple. Rejoice: they changed their minds. My young tree has cropped annually for 6 years without fail. Not recommended for warmer districts. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

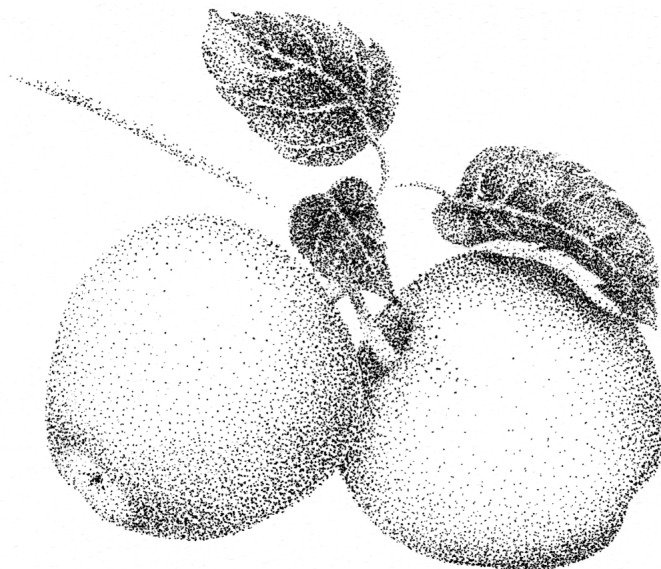
0282 *Frostbite*, \$23.00

Garden Royal Late Summer-Early Fall. Unknown parentage. Sudbury, MA, about 1790. AJ Downing, in the 1860 edition of his *Fruits and Fruit Trees of America*, calls this dessert apple "very tender, juicy, rich, vinous, aromatic, a beautiful and excellent fruit." I agree 100%. On a good year in our yard, the Garden Royals are perfectly balanced and highly flavored. Aptly named, it is truly regal. More suited to the homestead garden than the commercial orchard. The fruit is relatively small, does not keep more than a couple of weeks and tends to bear every other year. But, yowzah, the flavor is something else. Forever worth its various inconveniences. Small to medium-sized round-conic fruit is deep red with prominent white dots. No scab. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0291 *Garden Royal*, \$22.00

Golden Russet Winter. Uncertain origin. Thought to be from England, New York or New England. The champagne of cider apples, ripening late in fall, when the root cellar has finally cooled off and the best cider is ready to be made: sweet, balanced, thick and smooth. Also recommended as a "sharp" acid source for fermented cider. Excellent eating; keeps all winter and well into spring. Round medium-sized hard fruit; uniform in size and shape, softens as winter progresses but maintains its superior sweet flavor. Solid deep yellow *golden* russeted skin! Medium to large vigorous diverging upcurving tree with silvery-green leaves on long willow branches. Scab resistant. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0319 *Golden Russet*, \$22.00



GoldRush Winter. Coop 38 {PRI 2750-6=[Coop 17 (PRI 1689-100) x Golden Delicious]}. PRI Coop, 1994. The first of the new disease-resistant varieties from the well-known Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois apple breeding program to have superior storage qualities. Not only that, but it's probably *the* best-tasting apple to come out of that program. Love those Golden Delicious qualities! Medium to large round-conic fruit. Uniform deep greenish-yellow opaque chewy skin turns golden in storage. Creamy white green-flecked flesh is hard, very crisp, juicy and tart. A solid apple with excellent flavor. Serve them for dessert in February and March and no one will be disappointed. Ripens very late in fall, but will usually do so successfully in central Maine. Keeps until early May in the root cellar. Very precocious. Highly resistant to scab and powdery mildew. Moderate fireblight resistance. Moderately vigorous tree with a strong central leader blooms midseason to late. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0329 *GoldRush*, \$22.00

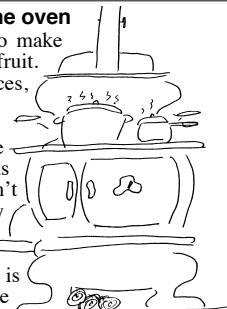
Gravenstein Late Summer. Thought to be of 17th century Italian or German origin. Brought to the U.S. in the early 19th century. By 1880 it was the most popular summer apple in Maine. Probably *the* most famous of all summer apples and usually considered the best of all pie apples. Still commonly grown in Nova Scotia, northern California, Oregon and Washington. Medium to large fruit, irregularly round, asymmetrical, usually ribbed. Thin tender skin is striped with yellow, red and orange. Tender crisp aromatic richly flavored juicy firm tart flesh. Outstanding eating and cooking. Rated "very good to best" by Beach in *Apples of New York*. Large vigorous productive tree with a nearly perfect wide-angle branching habit that requires practically no training. Ripens over several weeks. Too tender for colder areas of New England. Blooms early. Triploid: not suitable for pollinating other varieties. Zones 4-7. **ME Grown.**

0341 *Gravenstein*, \$22.00

Making pear sauce and applesauce in the oven

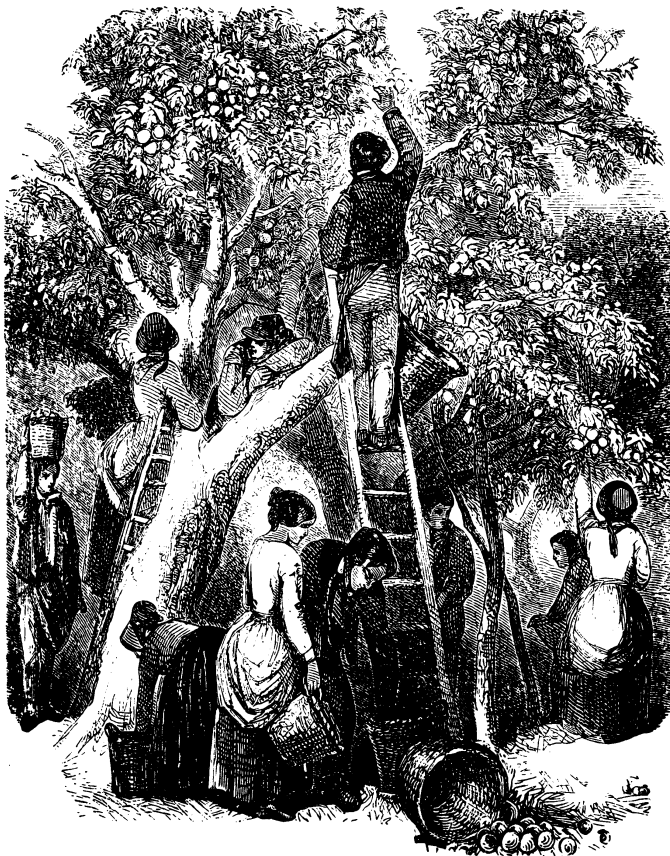
Tom Vigue learned from an old-timer how to make syrupy fruit sauces and butters by roasting the fruit. We love this recipe. It requires no sugar, spices, cream or ice cream.

Fill a large (or huge) roasting pan with whole pears or apples with only the stems removed, as long as the fruit is of nice quality and doesn't need more trimming. Roast at approximately 350° for a couple of hours, checking occasionally to mash down any fruit before it scorches. After two hours or more, when fruit is soft, process through a food mill to remove skins and cores. At that point you will have a sauce. Return sauce to the oven and roast for a few more hours, depending on how concentrated you want it. A very concentrated sweet fruit butter eventually results without ever burning the bottom of the pan.



Honeycrisp Winter. MN 1711 (Keepsake x open pollinated). U Minn, 1991. Medium-large fruit, described as "explosively crisp," mottled and striped red over yellow. Cream-colored flesh is sweet and juicy with hard snapping-crisp texture. Mild aroma and subacid flavor are top quality in September and improve steadily in storage. Unusual because it ripens in early fall yet keeps up to seven months. First of the many excellent University of Minnesota introductions to receive large-scale commercial attention, now has a huge following. Has become our best-selling apple. Probably best planted north of Massachusetts; has not performed as well in warmer districts. Was always thought to be a Honeygold-Macoun cross until recent DNA testing at U. Minn. revealed at least one of its real parents. Tends towards annual bearing. Relatively small low-vigor upright spreading tree. Above average scab resistance. Blooms mid-late season. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

0386 Honeycrisp, \$23.00



Jefferis Fall. Unknown parentage. Isaac Jefferies introduction, Newlin township, Chester County, PA, before 1848. Top-quality fresh-eating fall dessert apple. Its tender flesh is firm, fine, crisp, juicy and slightly sub-acid. Becoming a bit of a cult variety in central Maine due to its delicious flavor. Medium-sized roundish fruit reminiscent in shape, not coloring, of a Macoun or a smallish Mac. The skin is half-yellow, half-striped, splashed and spotted with cheerful red. Rather deep basin and cavity. Ripens unevenly over several weeks from early fall until almost the new year. Its long ripening season is undesirable for the commercial orchard but great for the small home plot. Blooms mid-season. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

0426 Jefferis, \$22.00

Keepsake Winter. MN 1593 (MN 447 x Northern Spy). U Minn, 1979. Aptly named fruit keeps until July in the root cellar. Light yellow very fine-textured flesh is hard, crisp, juicy and sweet. Excellent aromatic flavor, but you must wait at least a month after picking. David Bedford of the Minnesota Horticultural Research Center said, "The completely unique flavor percolates up your nose....If you can't stand the looks, just close your eyes when you eat it!" The irregular conic medium-sized fruit is almost entirely overlaid with stripes and a wash of very deep red. Moderately vigorous medium-sized tree usually bears annual crops. A northern grower on the North American Fruit Explorers (NAFEX) email discussion group called it, "My most agreeable, reliable, grower overwhelmingly friendly apple. I have to thin the whoopee out of it every year. Big fruit. Big taste. Keepsake! Keepsake!" Recently discovered to be one of the parents of the sensational Honeycrisp. Somewhat resistant to scab. Blooms late. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

0452 Keepsake, \$22.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.

Liberty Late Summer-Fall. NY 55140-19 [Macoun x PRI 54-12 (PRI Coop complex cross includes Rome Beauty, Jersey Black, McIntosh, Wealthy and *M. floribunda*)]. NY Stn, 1978. Often cited as the best of the disease-resistant varieties, particularly in the Northeast. Somewhat similar to Macoun. Handsome medium-sized round-conic bluish-pinkish-red apple with crisp white flesh of very good dessert quality when dead ripe. Excellent cooking and cider too. Recommended for single-variety cider. Keeps till late fall. Begins fruit production at an early age, bearing consistent heavy annual crops. Naturally well-structured sturdy tree is easy to care for. Considered to be 100% scab-immune, though not resistant to insects or other lesser apple diseases. Allowing Liberty to crop too heavily at a young age can stunt final tree size and reduce productivity. Even with mature trees, thinning fruit clusters is important to maintain fruit size. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0475 Liberty, \$22.00

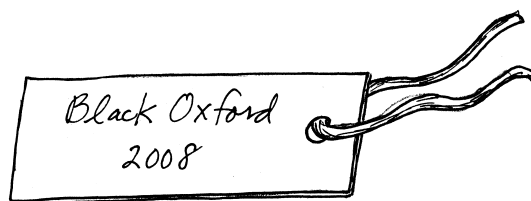


Mantet Summer. Tetofsky x open-pollinated. Morden Stn, Manitoba, 1929. Thought to be a McIntosh and Tetovsky cross. Very high quality extremely hardy late summer variety for dessert and cooking, coming in late August in central Maine. Fine-grained juicy tender aromatic creamy white flesh with very good flavor. Medium-large roundish-truncated ribbed slightly lumpy fruit. Amber skin is washed with dark red streaks and blotches. Grower Don Johnson wrote to me, "First it has a wonderful bloom. Some people plant flowering crabs just for the bloom. I think Mantet is equal to any of them. Of the 100 apples that I have I can't think of any that are as nice. Second it is an annual heavy bearer. And for an early bearer...it keeps well, much better than Lodi or Yellow Transparent. Fourth it has a most pleasing apple flavor...After they taste it they all want to grow it." Upright hardy fast-growing productive tree. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

0515 Mantet, \$22.00

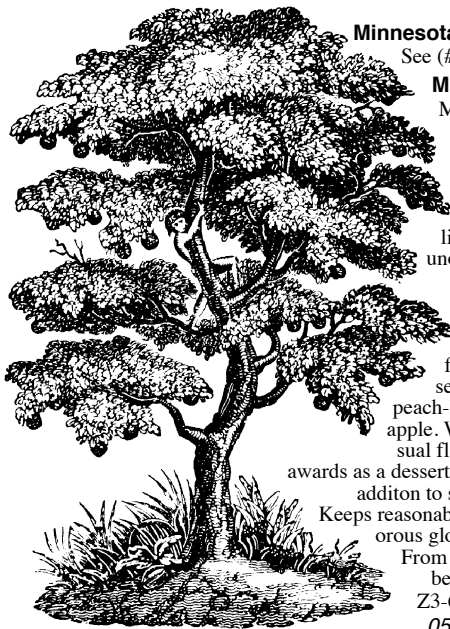
McIntosh Fall. Thought to be a seedling of Fameuse or perhaps St. Lawrence x Alexander. Dundela, Ontario, 1811. First discovered by John McIntosh on his farm near the St. Lawrence River in 1811. Originally called Granny's Apple, then McIntosh Red, sometimes Gem, and finally McIntosh. Certainly the most important apple in the Northeast. Although not planted in many other locations, it grows to perfection in our cool climate. There are many strains of McIntosh, some striped, some blushed, some solid red. Recent strains have been selected for traits other than flavor, and the variety has gotten a bad reputation. This strain has green ground color overlaid with red stripes and blush. It was planted in 1906 in Mercer, ME. Of all the strains we have sampled, this one has the best "Mac" taste. This is a delicious aromatic apple. Annual cropper. Large beautifully rounded spreading strong easily managed tree. Susceptible to scab but has shown resistance to apple maggot fly. Does not keep well in home storage. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

0522 McIntosh, \$22.00



The Perfect Tree Label

Commercially available garden labels do not last. Sharpies always fade. Aluminium tears off in the wind. And so on. Now, we make our own. We use vinyl siding. Vinyl siding works so well, they should remove it from all the houses in the world and make it all into plant labels. Obtain scraps at building sites or purchase new at a building supply store. It's inexpensive and you can make dozens from a single piece of siding. Cut siding into strips of any width using a utility knife. Cut strips to length using hand pruners or a knife. Drill a hole at one end. Attach with wire. Write information on labels with pencil, NOT with a sharpie or magic marker. Pencil will last for decades.



Minnesota 447 has a new name. See (#0282) Frostbite.

MN 1734 Winter. Now that MN 447 finally has its own name (see Frostbite), we turn our attention to another unnamed Minnesota apple that has wormed its way out into the public domain. Sometimes and unofficially called **Minnesota Russet**, MN 1734 has shown up in various catalogs over the years. The round medium-sized fruit is entirely golden russeted with red stripes and a peach-like surface. A very pretty apple. With dry flesh and an unusual flavor, this apple won't win awards as a dessert fruit but can be a positive addition to sweet or fermented ciders. Keeps reasonably well. Very healthy vigorous globe-shaped spreading tree. From our experience, not heavy bearing. Blooms midseason. Z3-6. **ME Grown.**

0570 MN 1734, \$22.00

Northern Spy Winter. Chance seedling. East Bloomfield, NY, about 1800. A bronze plaque marks the site of the original tree of this former commercial giant, still a renowned Maine favorite. Very large delectable all-purpose fruit has yellow background covered all over with pink and light red stripes and wash. Very juicy and tender. Even when the tender skin bruises, it keeps extremely well. There has been much speculation as to the origin of the odd name. Some maintain it was named after the legendary Northern Spy, a notorious hardcore abolitionist hero during the early 19th century who assisted slaves in escaping north, set up safe houses for them *en route*, and robbed and killed slave catchers. Medium-to-large moderately vigorous slightly upcurving late-blooming long-lived tree. Its one drawback is being slow to come into bearing, although for us it has been worth the wait. Prefers fertile well-drained soil. Good scab resistance. Leafy out late and blooms late season. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0621 Northern Spy, \$22.00

Red Astrichan Summer. Russia prior to 1835. One of the first four Russian apples imported to the U.S. and the standard Maine summer apple for generations. Still found occasionally in old Maine dooryards. Moderate to heavy crops of medium-sized somewhat oblate fruit, splashed or sometimes solidly covered with dark red. An obvious russet patch nearly always surrounds the stem. Looks like a junior version of a Wolf River. Juicy rich subacid white flesh frequently tinged with red makes a highly colored sauce. Especially loved for its distinctive flavor in pies. Keeps for a month with refrigeration. Vigorous tree bears young, often annually, and over a period of several weeks in midsummer. Very hardy. Blooms early. Z3-6. **ME Grown.**

0768 Red Astrichan, \$22.00

Red Baron Late Summer-Early Fall. MN 1500 (Golden Delicious x Red Van Buren). U Minn, 1969. An all-purpose favorite of northern Maine growers Barb and Steve Miller. Large attractive blocky rounded slightly truncate fruit. Deep rich yellow skin is mostly covered with rosy-orange-red stripes and blush. The crisp glistening yellowish flesh is airy but juicy, pleasantly subacid, and has a nice sweetness. Good for fresh eating and culinary purposes, I'll bet it would also make a very good dried apple. Ripens about the same time as Wealthy. Keeps until the first of the year. Appears to be immune or highly resistant to scab in our trials. Medium-sized moderately vigorous fast-growing annually productive and precocious tree. No dieback in northern Maine. Blooms midseason. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

0772 Red Baron, \$22.00

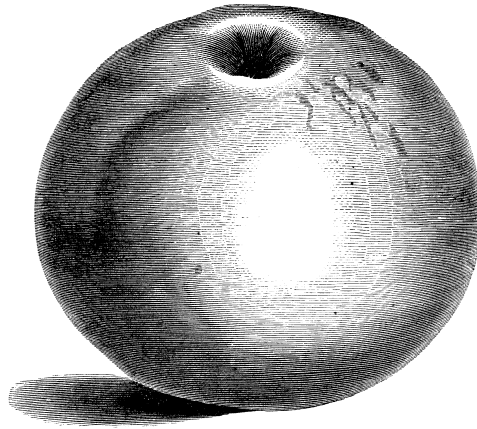
Redfield Fall. Wolf River x Niedzwetzkyana. NY Station, 1938. One of the best and largest of the *red-fleshed* apples. Although often considered too tart for eating out of hand, the medium-large opaque solid rusty-red-skinned fruit is excellent in sauce, pies and salads. It makes wonderful jelly and turns cider and sauce red. Holds up well under a pie crust. In fact, it's a better pie apple than its famous parent Niedzwetzkyana (pronounced Need-wich-key-ay-na) to whom it owes its unusual flesh color. Cutting open a Redfield apple is guaranteed to cause a stir. Inside is two-toned: deep pink fading to white around the core. The flowers are also two-toned, deep pink, tipped with small white lightning bolts. And the bronze-red foliage adds further interest all season. One of the very first to bloom each year. Zones 3-4. **ME Grown.**

0808 Redfield, \$22.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.

Redfree Summer. Coop 13 [PRI 2175-7=(Raritan x PRI 1018-101)] PRI Coop, 1981. Medium-sized round firm sweet crisp juicy red summer apple ripens mid-late August in central Maine. Solid purply-red fruit with indistinct darker-red stripes and a green spot accent surrounding the stem. Not nearly as purple as Liberty or even McIntosh. One of the only summer apples you can call crisp. Excellent fresh eating and creamy thick coarse sweet applesauce. Keeps two weeks in the kitchen or two months in cold storage. Part of the second wave of disease-resistant scab-immune releases from the PRI breeding program. Becoming rather popular in Maine. It frequently turns up in smaller commercial orchards and here and there in farmers' markets. Vigorous somewhat upright habit. Scab immune. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0810 Redfree, \$22.00



RHODE ISLAND GREENING.

Rhode Island Greening Fall-Winter. Green's Inn, near Newport, RI, about 1650. Also known as **Greening**. One of the most important apples of the 19th century and the classic New England cooking apple. Also excellent for fresh eating. In fact it's excellent at everything, including pies. Large green fruit usually has a brownish blush. Light yellow-green flesh is crisp and tart. The tree itself will grow to be rather large with lower branches that may weep slightly. Prune to have the first scaffold relatively high; too low and you might find your fruit growing on the ground. Due to its high-quality fruit and adaptability to a range of soil conditions, this apple eventually became popular all over New York and New England. Keeps until late winter. Less hardy than Baldwin and may not do well north of central Maine. Susceptible to scab; keep it open and airy. Late season bloomer. Z4-7

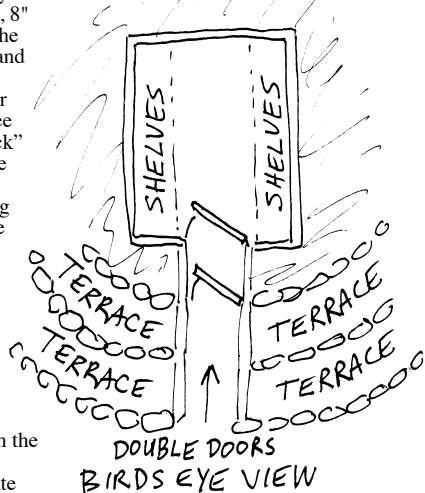
0825 Rhode Island Greening, \$22.00

The Root Cellar is one of the greatest of all inventions. High humidity and low—but not freezing—temperatures are key. Keep out rodents. Soil or gravel floor. Our small (8x12') root cellar holds over 40 bushels of apples, carrots, beets, potatoes, cabbages, cider, and more. Two levels of 20" shelves line either side of the door, wide enough for bushel boxes to fit side by side.

Concrete and stone walls, 8" thick, were laid up with the "Nearing form" method and a 6" thick reinforced concrete ceiling. An inner and an outer door set three feet apart with an "air lock" between. Doors should be wide enough to admit a wheelbarrow and a rolling cider barrel. We leave the doors open on fall nights to bring the temperature down rapidly. A root cellar can also be incorporated into a new or existing basement. For detailed information, see *Root Cellaring* by Mike and Nancy Bubel, available in the Fedco Seed catalog.

We do not have separate rooms for potatoes and apples.

We also do not store items in sand, leaves, etc. Everything goes into bushel boxes *as is*. As long as humidity is high and temperatures low, your goods will do fine. We periodically go through and throw out any rotting produce. Using a root cellar, we're able to eat our home-grown produce until late spring and beyond. I've eaten apples on July 4th! They looked pretty good; tasted kind of mushy though.



Roxbury Russet Winter. Roxbury, MA, early 1600s. One of the best late-winter dessert apples: rich, spicy and juicy. The aromatic juice is highly recommended for both single-variety cider and blends, fresh or fermented. Hard medium-large oblate-conic-angular green fruit mostly covered with greenish to yellowish-brown russet. Not uniform in size, shape or color. Keeps until late spring. Medium-to-large vigorous spreading tree. Probably the first named American apple variety. Together with (#0045) Baldwin and (#0825) Rhode Island Greening, one of the big three commercial apples in New England for much of the nineteenth century. We're on a mission to re-establish trees into the Roxbury area. Last summer I visited a young tree in nearby "JP." We hope to see them all over the city one day. Scab resistant. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0851 *Roxbury Russet*, \$23.00



Scott's Winter Winter. Unknown parentage. Newport, VT, 1864. A very tart dessert apple and a supremely wonderful midwinter pie apple. Small-medium-sized roundish truncate fruit completely and densely striped and dashed with red. Pick them in late October and store them at least a month before putting the knife to them. A pie in December will hold its shape and be still on the tart side. While nearly everyone will like these early pies, the real treat comes in February when the apples are still firm but a little spongy. Then the pies are at peak flavor; they might sink a bit but the taste is exquisite. Friends have told me it was the best pie they'd ever eaten. And I know it wasn't my crust. Will keep all winter in the root cellar. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

0876 *Scott's Winter*, \$22.00

Somerset of Maine Late Summer-Early Fall. Unknown parentage. Mercer, Somerset County, ME, before 1850. Also known as **Somerset**. Large oblate all-purpose fruit has buttery yellow skin mostly covered with stripes and wash of a beautiful soft rusty red. Tender juicy subacid flesh. In the 1907 *Maine Agricultural Experiment Station Report*, WM Munson wrote, "It is an excellent apple and, when known, is highly prized as an early market variety." Makes a really good single-variety September pie. The fruit will keep into late fall. Very vigorous spreading tree. Has been annually bearing in our orchard. Still a local favorite here and there around the state. One of Mercer's several great contributions to the pomological world. (Another, of course, is 93-year-old Francis Fenton.) Blooms mid to late season. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

0918 *Somerset of Maine*, \$22.00

Starkey Fall-Early Winter. Seedling of Ribston Pippin. Vassalboro, ME, 1820. My favorite fall fresh-eating apple, its exquisite combination of crisp sweetness and tartness reminiscent of a perfectly ripe Concord grape. Medium-sized roundish fruit is rosy red, covered almost completely with fine lines, shades and stripes of darker reds and sprinkled with pronounced white dots. Tendency towards biennial bearing although it will produce a crop every year if pruned and thinned. Keeps well into winter. I begin to get into them in late September, with perfect eating being just about New Year's. Still quite decent in February. Originated on the farm of Moses Starkey, a Quaker minister in North Vassalboro. Listed in *The Apples of New York* but never got much notice outside central Maine where it was once popular. Annually bearing tough medium-large tree. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

0955 *Starkey*, \$22.00

Summer Sweet Summer. Originated on the farm of Ichabod Thomas, Sidney, ME, about 1800. Also called **King of Sweetings**, **King Sweet**, **Sidney Sweet**, **Sidney Sweeting** or **Thomas Sweet**. Sometimes confused with Hightop Sweeting (also called Summer Sweeting), which originated in Plymouth, MA. One of several rare varieties that longtime collector and orchardist Earland Goodhue of Sidney introduced to me many years ago. Medium-small 2" tasty yellow fruit has a beautiful golden apricot-orange blush. Firm somewhat dry yellowish flesh with a mild sweet distinctly interesting and strange flavor, best for fresh eating when it's still on the green side. The first apple the neighborhood kids coveted every summer when Earland was growing up in Sidney 90 years ago. We being to pick them around August 10. Cooks up into a nice tropical-flavored sauce—with hints of banana and pineapple—in about ten minutes. Healthy vigorous upright compact productive tree. Pick them off the tree or off the ground for about two weeks. Rare. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0991 *Summer Sweet*, \$22.00

Sweet 16 Early Fall. MN 1630 (MN447 x Northern Spy) U Minn, 1979. Whenever anyone eats a Sweet 16 for the first time, you know they will be surprised. Fine-textured crisp flesh contains an astounding unusually complex combination of sweet nutty and spicy flavors with slight anise essence, sometimes described as cherry, vanilla or even bourbon. I always love Sweet 16 season. Truly excellent fresh eating, although it is too sweet for some palates. Round-conic bronze-red medium-sized fruit, striped and washed with rose-red. Annual bearer if thinned. Very hardy moderate-sized vigorous vase-shaped tree grows upright with willowy branches that get loaded with fruit but do not break. Grower-friendly. Reaches its best flavor and texture in northern districts. Some resistance to scab. Keeps till midwinter. Blooms midseason. Z3-6. **ME Grown.**

1017 *Sweet Sixteen*, \$22.00

Trailman Summer. Trail x Osman. Beaver Lodge Research Stn, Canada, 1973. Small

1 3/4" round-oval crabapple. Wonderfully flavored, spicy, sweet, exceptionally crisp and crunchy like candy on a tree. Clear yellow fruit with a porcelain finish, a white bloom and sometimes a brownish-red blush. Golden yellow flesh. Ripens about August 20 in central Maine and hangs on the tree for two weeks without softening. Precocious annually productive moderately vigorous upright spreading tree. Exceedingly hardy, possibly to Zone 2. Might be tasteless south of about Zone 4. Blooms early. *In short supply, so order early.* Z2-4. **ME Grown.**

1054 *Trailman*, \$22.00

Wealthy Fall. Cherry crab seedling. Excelsior, MN, 1860. A Maine native of sorts, the seed having come from Bangor. Superb all-purpose fall apple, one of the most famous of all hardy varieties. With its perfect texture and complex flavors, Wealthy is considered to be one of the best apples. I agree. Our old friend, long-time orchardist Francis Fenton, believes Wealthy—not McIntosh—deserves to be the favorite commercial apple of northern New England. The trees his father planted in Mercer 103 years ago are still going strong. Round-oblate medium-sized fruit is pale greenish-yellow streaked with carmine. About as firm as McIntosh. Tender very juicy sweet subacid flesh is white, often stained red. Good eating and even better cooking. Wonderful pies! Good acid source for fermented cider. Ripens over a long period. Productive moderately vigorous long-lived small to medium-sized tree. Blooms early. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

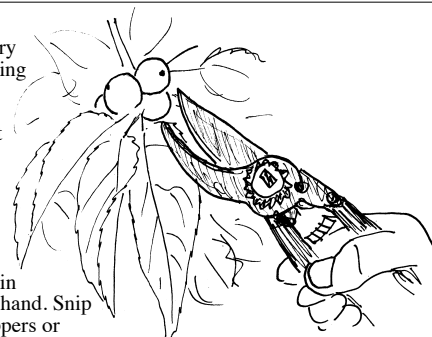
1130 *Wealthy*, \$22.00

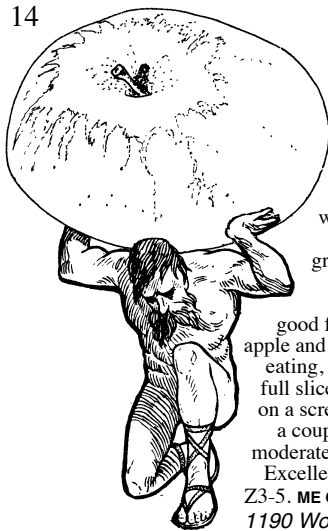
Williams Pride Summer. Co-op 23 [PRI 2845-1=(PRI 1018-101 x NJ50)] PRI Coop, 1988. Probably the most popular summer apple among the newly developed disease-resistant introductions. It's actually crisp, which is rare that time of year. Deep solid purple roundish-conic irregularly shaped fruit, highlighted with areas of glowing rosy red and covered with a thin bloom. Light cream-colored flesh with red staining just under the skin is firm, crisp and very juicy, with a nice acidic blend of tart and sweet, reminiscent of Fameuse. Long ripening period means you don't have to eat them all at once. Vigorous annually bearing tree with some biennial tendency, well-shaped with strong right-angled branches that do not require careful training. Highly resistant to fireblight, cedar apple rust and sooty blotch, resistant to powdery mildew. Scab immune. Blooms early-midseason. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

1153 *Williams Pride*, \$22.00

Thinning Apples

Thin your apple crop every year before July 4. Thinning reduces disease and pest pressure, increases fruit size, and encourages fruit bud formation for next year. It's the single most important thing you can do to promote annual fruiting. Commercial growers use sprays to force their trees to self-thin (abort). You can do it by hand. Snip off small apples with clippers or "pop" them off with your fingers. Leave the stem connected to the tree. If you pull off the entire stem, the remaining fruit may weaken, detach, and wind up on the ground. Leave 2-3 fruit per cluster. Space clusters about 3-4" apart.





Wolf River Fall. Alexander seedling. Near Wolf River, WI, 1875. Perhaps the most famous old-time apple in Maine, likely due to its catchy name and its extremely large—even huge—round-oblate fruit. Pale yellow-green skin mostly covered with pink, deep red and bright crimson. Almost always has a vivid yellowish-green russet splash around the stem. Creamy-white coarse firm-but-tender flesh. Aromatic subacid flavor is very good for cooking. Makes an excellent baked apple and a decent pie. Not much good for fresh eating, but particularly tasty when dried. I cut full slices right across the core and place them on a screen above the wood stove. They dry in a couple of days. Keeps until late fall. Large moderately vigorous productive spreading tree. Excellent scab resistance. Blooms midseason.

Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

1190 Wolf River, \$22.00

Yellow Bellflower Winter. Burlington NJ, 18th c. Also known as **Belle-Fleur** or **Yellow Belle-Fleur**. Among the oldest and most famous of American apple varieties, possibly originating as early as the 17th century. Common for generations throughout New York and New England. Magnificent ancient specimens can still be found in old Maine orchards. In 2007 we visited one for the first time on North Haven Island that measured nearly 50 feet across. Very large beautiful conic-oblong pale yellow all-purpose fruit, sometimes with a russet netting and often with a blush. AJ Downing described the flesh 150 years ago as “tender, juicy, crisp, sprightly sub-acid...” One of the best of all the cooking apples. Received its name from its beautiful blossoms. Ripens in late fall and keeps until March in the root cellar. Many thanks to Richard Kelly and Rosey Guest for providing us with scionwood from their old hulks in Vassalboro and Jefferson respectively. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

1202 Yellow Bellflower, \$22.00

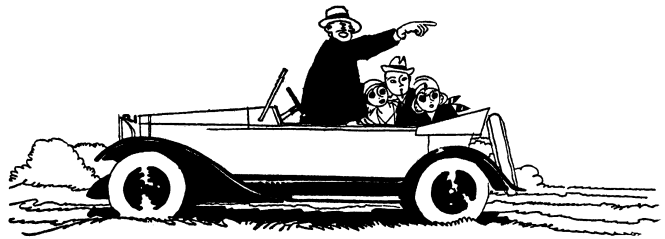


Yellow Transparent Summer. Imported from Russia, 1870. Along with Red Astrichan, the classic northern New England summer apple. As ubiquitous as Duchess in Aroostook County. Heavy annual cropper of exceptionally early apples, some years in central Maine as early as the first week of August. Presumably called ‘Transparent’ because you practically see through the clear light yellow smooth waxy tender skin. White juicy sweetly subacid flesh. The soft ripe fruit makes a magnificent purée-type applesauce. You can leave the food mill on the shelf. Can be good fresh eating, but catch them when they’re ripe because they don’t keep more than a few days. Best about a day on the green side. Moderately vigorous medium-to-small upcurving tree with yellowish bark and foliage. Blooms midseason. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

1214 Yellow Transparent, \$22.00

Orchard Ladders

Sturdy lightweight traditionally shaped wooden orchard ladders have wide bottoms for stability and narrow tops for easy handling and placement. Contact the manufacturer:
Peter Baldwin
207-722-3654
baldwin@acadia.net



Where can I taste that apple

While we pride ourselves with our variety descriptions, there’s nothing like the real thing. No words can compare to the taste. Frequently I’m asked, “Where can I taste a?” Here are a few suggestions.

Maine:

Visit the orchards near you. Call the Maine Dept of Ag at (207) 287-3491 or visit them online at getrealmaine.com for a complete list of the orchards in Maine. Many have unusual varieties. Even one or two rare finds can be worth the trip. Below are a few orchards with wonderful collections. I’m sure there are others. Don’t be frustrated if you call and reach no one. Just go. By September most of them are open 6 or 7 days a week.

- Ricker Hill Orchards, Turner, Androscoggin County (207) 225-5552, www.rickerhill.com. Organic apples and more. Collection of young heirlooms includes most of the Fedco list. Some should be fruiting in a year or two.
- Sweetser’s Apple Barrel and Orchards, Cumberland Center, Cumberland County (207) 829-3074, www.maineapple.com. A great collection of old and new varieties. Their pride and joy is an ancient Rolfe tree. Don’t miss it.
- Bailey’s Orchard, South Windsor, Lincoln County (207) 549-7680. One of the largest collections of old varieties in the state.
- Lakeside Orchards, Manchester, Kennebec County (207) 622-2479, www.lakesideorchards.com. Organic apples and a good collection of mostly new varieties.
- Rollins Orchard, Garland, Penobscot County (207) 924-3504. A very good collection of unusual old varieties.
- Sandy River Orchard, Mercer, Somerset County (207) 587-2563. Francis Fenton’s huge collection of 100 or more varieties.
- The Apple Farm, Fairfield, Somerset County (207) 453-7656. A great collection of unusual old and new varieties.
- Cayford Orchards, Skowhegan, Somerset County (207) 474-5200. 57 varieties of tree fruit.
- Greensweet, Unity, Waldo County (207) 453-4486. Call first, open weekends, over 50 varieties.
- Sewall’s Orchard, Lincolnville, Waldo County (207) 763-3956, www.sewallorchard.com. Organic apples including some of the first disease-resistant releases.
- Dole’s Orchard, Limington, York County (207) 793-4409, www.dolesorchard.com. Mix of old and new. They have two un-named varieties crossed by the late Maine plant breeder Russell Bailey. Both are extremely rare, if not unique.

Other States:

I know a few orchards with good collections outside of Maine. If you know of any we should list, please let us know. An internet search could direct you to an orchard nearby.

- Nashoba Valley Winery, Bolton, MA. (978) 779-5521, www.nashobawinery.com. A large collection of old and new varieties.
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA (508) 869-6111, www.towerhillbg.org. The best collection of historic varieties in New England. At last count 119, all labeled in an arboretum-type setting. A great place to study the fruit. Usually for sale at a special event over Columbus Day weekend. Call ahead.
- Hutchins Farm, Concord, MA (978) 369-2480. Nice collection of old and mostly newer varieties.
- Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA (508) 347-3362, www.osv.org. Apple tasting with apple historian Tom Burford on October 4, 2008.
- Gould Hill Orchard, Contoocook, NH (603) 746-3811, www.gouldhill.com. Large collection of new and old varieties.
- Poverty Lane Orchards, Lebanon, NH (603) 448-1511, www.povertylaneorchards.com. Likely the best collection of unusual dessert apples in New England. One of the largest collection of cider apples in the U.S. They have all the cider varieties we sell.
- Alyson’s Orchard, Walpole, NH (603) 756-9090. Although I’ve never been there, I’ve heard they have an extensive collection.
- Scott Farm, Dummerston, VT (802) 254-6868. Large collection of old and new varieties.

Cider Apples

Early American colonists quickly discovered that barley did not grow well in New England, so fermented cider became the home-grown drink that replaced beer. Cider orchards composed of nameless seedling apples sprang up everywhere and the local cider press became a fixture of every community large, small or tiny. Americans were less discriminating than Europeans about their cider apples. Seedling apples are still referred to as 'cider apples' by old-timers in central Maine. True, a small number of varieties, such as Golden Russet and Hewe's Crab, gained recognition as premier cider fruit, but in England, France and even Spain, dozens of traditional named cider apples can still be found today. These are NOT for fresh eating; in fact, most taste terrible. Nor are they suitable for sweet (unfermented) cider, although some might add character to a sweet cider blend. However, they all possess qualities that make them very desirable for fermented cider production, and fermented cider is what we mean by 'cider.'

The National Fruit and Cider Institute in Long Ashton, England, evaluated about 2000 cider varieties, classifying them into four categories: **sharp** (low in tannins, high in acid), **sweet** (little or no tannin, low acid), **bittersharp** (high in tannins and high acid), and **bittersweet** (high tannins and sugar, low acid, astringent, said to make the highest quality cider). **Tannin** denotes naturally occurring compounds whose bitter astringency gives cider rounded full flavor, body, and golden color. The Cider Institute also applied the term **vintage** to those varieties that possess the perfect qualities for cider.

Bittersweets don't contain enough acid to make quality single-variety ciders. Cider needs a sharp ap-

ple to provide some acid. Cidermakers blend the bittersweets with bittersharks or high-acid dessert apples. Among the most highly praised dessert apples with adequate acid levels for blending are Golden Russet, Esopus Spitzenburg, Roxbury Russet, Ashmead's Kernel, Wickson, Golden Delicious and Wealthy. Cider makers also tend to use what they have at hand: many other dessert apples—or even wild seedling fruit—may have plenty of acid to use in blends.

A well-planned cider orchard includes several varieties of each season, ripening in a progression through the fall. (It does no good to have an early bittersweet if none of your other varieties will be ripe until late October.)

Cider enthusiasts are growing many vintage apples that have been imported to the U.S. in recent years. In response to this renaissance, we offer some of the best varieties. Our thanks to Steve Wood of Poverty Lane Orchards and Farnum Hill Cider in Lebanon, NH, for providing us with piles of scionwood and ongoing advice for this project.

Some cider apples are in short supply. If you plan to order more than a few trees and would like to discuss availability, call or send us an email. If necessary we can custom graft larger quantities of any of these varieties.

We recommend two books on cider making: *Cider Hard and Sweet* by Ben Watson and *Cider: Making Using and Enjoying Sweet and Hard Cider* by Annie Proulx and Lew Nichols.

All cider apples are on standard (Antanovka) hardy seedling rootstock. (We provide trees between 3 and 6' tall.)

Cider apple collection A package of seven trees to begin your cider orchard. We will choose two sharps or bittersharks and five bittersweets for each collection. The seven trees will include at least six different varieties, including some not listed here. **ME Grown.**

1270 Cider Apple Collection, bundle of 7, \$125.00

Chisel Jersey Late Fall. Full bittersweet. Martock, Somerset, England, 19th c. One of the most famous of the Somerset bittersweets. Round to slightly conic ever-so-slightly greasy fruit, colored with a beautiful combination of dull opaque reds, yellows and russets. Good sugar content and slow to medium fermentation. I attempted to eat one and quickly found that its "wooliness" rendered it nearly impossible to chew. Medium acidity, highly astringent, harsh and high in tannins. Our 50-50 blend produced a clear slightly-sweet cider with no bitterness. Very good. In old English *chesil* means pebble. Chisel Jersey is small, hard and bitter! A spreading tree may require encouragement to develop a strong central leader. Consistent cropper. Closely related to Dabinett; they should not be relied upon to pollinate one another. Late bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1281 Chisel Jersey, \$22.00

Dabinett Late Fall. Medium bittersweet. Probably a seedling of Chisel Jersey, Middle Lambrook, Somerset, England. Most popular cider variety in Somerset today and the mainstay of Poverty Lane's cider orchard. At the MOFGA cider workshop, Steve Woods told us, "If you're going to plant one bittersweet, plant this one." Medium-sized roundish fruit covered with sooty brownish brick-red stripes and blush. Looks rotten even when perfectly firm and ripe. Dense astringent juicy flesh. Sugar content fair and fermentation moderate. High quality well-balanced low-acid cider with a soft-tasting tannin. Pick last week of October, blend with other late varieties. Crops regularly. Grower-friendly tree with a spreading drooping habit, may require help in developing a strong central leader. Not pollen compatible with Chisel Jersey. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1285 Dabinett, \$22.00

Ellis Bitter Early Fall. Medium bittersweet. Newton St Cyres, Devon, Somerset, England. Particularly useful due to its early ripening. Use it to get the cider press back into action. Large oddly conic—sometimes ribbed—yellowish-green mostly red-blushed fruit is sweet, astringent, crisp and juicy. Fast-growing large spreading vigorous tree produces regularly. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1289 Ellis Bitter, \$22.00

Foxwhelp Fall. Bittersharp. According to Steve, the famous original 400-year-old Foxwhelp of yore has long disappeared from both sides of the Atlantic. Nor does anyone know the origin of this "new" Foxwhelp. Regardless, it is an excellent bittersharp. The largest cider apple I know. As big as a good-sized Cortland. Blocky-roundish shape with a chalky-greenish-yellow skin, light pink-red stripes and some blush. Distinctly ribbed. Very juicy and tart. Surprisingly makes for decent fresh eating.

Blend it in the barrel with the fall bittersweets. Considered moderately vigorous and a good cropper. High specific gravity. Early-season bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1293 Foxwhelp, \$22.00

Kingston Black Fall. Bittersharp. Unknown parentage. Somerset, England, early 19th c. High in tannin and high in acidity. Produces full-bodied vintage cider with a nice blend of acid, tannins and sugar. Ferment it alone or in a blend. One of the few varieties which makes a high-quality *single variety* hard cider. We've become fans of Farnum Hill's tasty Kingston Black varietal. Medium-sized conical beautiful rich red fruit, mottled with red russet and deeper shades of maroon (but not black!). Fairly decent fresh eating. The tree is a reliable bearer, but is gangly and needs careful pruning. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1301 Kingston Black, \$22.00

Medaille d'Or (Gold Medal) Late Fall. Full bittersweet. Developed by a Mr. Goddard of Boisguillaume, Rouen, France. Introduced into England in 1884. Medium light yellow roundish fruit mostly covered with patches and netting of smooth tan russet. In the 1993 British text, *The Book of Apples*, Joan Morgan and Alison Richards write that it "produces sweet, heavily astringent juice and full bittersweet cider 'often high in alcohol, fruity and good quality.'" Combine with other late varieties. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1313 Medaille d'Or, \$22.00

Somerset Redstreak Early Fall. Medium bittersweet. Old variety from the Sutton Montis area, Somerset, England. Frequently planted in newer British cider orchards. Medium-sized conic fruit, striped and blushed shiny red. The sides are somewhat streaked with red though not as much as St. Lawrence. Steve calls this "a lovely apple." Very juicy and astringent. Considered a heavy cropper. Picked mid-late September in central New Hampshire. This tree has an upright growth habit and may require heading back the central leader in early years to develop strong lateral branches. Strongly biennial. Not precocious. Mid-season bloomer. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

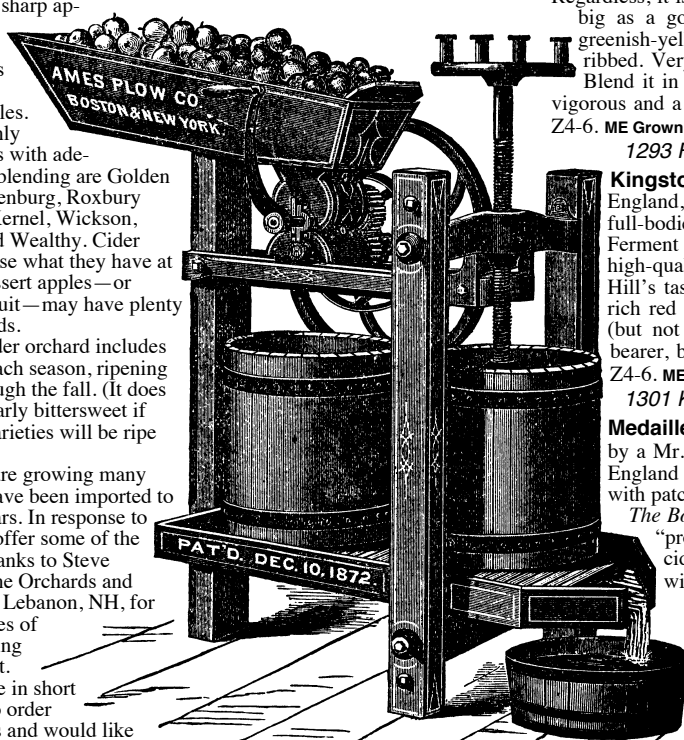
1325 Somerset Red Streak, \$22.00

Stoke Red Late Fall. Bittersharp. Also called **Neverblight**. May have originated in Rodney Stoke or near Wedmore, Somerset, England. Medium-sized round-conic fruit covered with dark red radiating stripes that blend into a nearly solid glowing red and pink blush. Some russet dots and netting. Very attractive. Sharp juice with some astringency. Very sharp cider. Consistent heavy cropper and a reputation in the U.K. for resistance to pests and disease. (That's over there, mind you.) Late bloomer. Pick late in the fall and combine with other late varieties. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1329 Stoke Red, \$22.00

Yarlington Mill Fall. Medium bittersweet. Yarlington, near North Cadbury, Somerset, England, 1898. Once common in farm orchards of central Somerset. Steve's other favorite bittersweet. Medium-sized yellow conical fruit with a pinkish blush and over-spreading darker red stripes. Considered an all-round excellent variety: reliable, productive and adaptable to varying conditions. Rich brown low-acid mild lovely aromatic fruity cider, not aggressively tannic. Above-average sugar content. Slow to medium fermentation. Somewhat gangly tree with a lot of blind (non-productive) wood. You may need to head back the leader in early years to encourage strong laterals. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1337 Yarlington Mill, \$22.00





Scionwood We offer scionwood from a wide selection of fruit trees including many listed in this catalog. Price is \$3.00 per stick (about 8") plus shipping. To order scionwood or rootstock for early shipment, send us a SASE requesting a scionwood order form or download it from the Fedco Trees website. Deadline for ordering scionwood and rootstock for early shipment is February 27, 2009. We will ship around March 25.

Hardy Rootstocks We consider these to be some of the best rootstocks for home or commercial use. Any of these produces fruit suitable for wildlife without grafting. For rootstocks not listed, or for larger calipers or larger quantities, please write for information. We also offer grafting supplies in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Seed catalog or online at www.fedcoseeds.com.

You may order rootstock to be shipped around March 25. To do so, use the scionwood order form obtained by requesting it with a SASE or downloading it from our website. Rootstock ordered on the regular order form in this catalog will be shipped with the rest of the Tree order in April.

Please join us Saturday, March 28, 2009, at the Maine Tree Crop Alliance annual scionwood exchange and grafting workshop in the exhibition hall of MOFGA's Common Ground in Unity. MOFGA also offers a full range of organic orcharding classes; see the MOFGA website for details.

Malus 'Antanovka' (Apple) Hardy Russian seedling rootstock for standard-sized apple trees. Z3. (1/4" caliper)

1350 *Malus antanovka*, bundle of 10, \$18.00

EMLA 26 (Apple) Produces a tree about half the size of a standard tree, in between the size of M9 and M7. Appears to be harder than M7, producing better quality fruit. Adaptable to all but poorly drained soils, not as sensitive to mineral deficiencies as some rootstocks. Staking recommended in exposed locations. Z5, maybe 4. (1/4" caliper)

1370 *Malus EMLA 26*, bundle of 10, \$18.00

Prunus americana (Plum) Seedling rootstock for American, Japanese or hybrid plums. Also recommended for grafting peaches. Seedling plum produces very decent 1" fruit without grafting. The best pollinator for hybrid plums. See explanation in plum section on page 19. Z3. (1/4" caliper)

1384 *Prunus americana*, bundle of 10, \$18.00

Prunus avium 'Mazzard' (Cherry) The rootstock we use for grafting sweet and pie cherries. Shallow spreading root system. Longer lived than Maheleb though not as hardy. Does not do well in heavy poorly drained soils. Z4/5. (1/4" caliper)

1387 *Prunus avium 'Mazzard'*, bundle of 10, \$18.00

Prunus cerasifera 'Myrobalan' (Plum) Seedling rootstock for European-type plums. Not recommended for American or hybrid plums. Z4. (1/4" caliper)

1388 *Prunus cerasifera 'Myrobalan'*, bundle of 10, \$18.00

Pyrus communis (Pear) Seedling rootstock for pears. Exceptional resistance to pear decline. Good uniformity. Z4. (1/4" caliper)

1400 *Pyrus communis*, bundle of 10, \$18.00

Grafting Wax

These days most grafters use synthetic products in lieu of grafting wax. They tend to be easy to apply and fairly inexpensive. Some, however, want to use the real thing. Eric Johnsen brought some homemade grafting wax to the scion exchange last spring. Here's his recipe:

- 2 cups beeswax
- 2 cups pine pitch
- 1 1/2 cups raw linseed oil

Melt all ingredients in an old pot. Heat and stir with a stick or an old wooden spoon until all ingredients blend thoroughly. Then, pour into aluminum pie tins. Let cool and harden. To use, wet hands before handling wax to prevent sticking. Slice wax with a knife, shape with fingers, and mold onto grafting site.



Pears *Pyrus communis* are native to temperate Europe and Asia and can grow up to 100' tall in the wild. Many pear varieties are hardy in New England, but tend to take longer to come into bearing than apples. Further south, pears tend to bear annually. However in Maine, where they are approaching their northern limit and due perhaps to our harsher climate, pears tend to bear biennially. Pick fruit when green and ripen it on the shelf. Or, for optimal eating, try Ed Fackler's method: "...when fruits exhibit slight color changes, begin to test pressure (using your thumb) near the stem. When there is a slight "give," pick all the fruit, store at or near 35° for 7 or more days. Then remove them as needed, allow them to sit at room temps for 2-4 days which allows them to ripen to peak flavor."

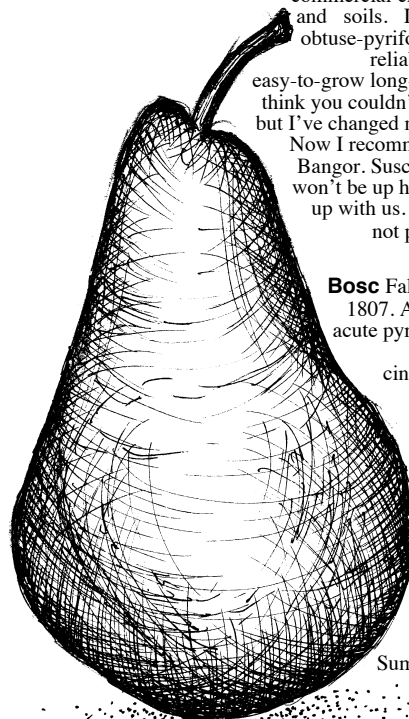
Pear blossoms are less attractive to bees than apple blossoms, so pears should be planted closer together to ensure pollination. Although some pears appear to be self-pollinating, we recommend a second variety for pollination. Bloom dates for all varieties are similar. Plant pear trees 15-20' apart. (3 1/2-6' trees)

Atlantic Queen Late Summer-Early Fall. Old French variety. Very large melting juicy sweet aromatic yellow-green dessert fruit. Looks like a big chubby obovate obtuse-pyriform Bartlett. When they're perfectly ripe, they're hard to beat. You may want to eat the core! For years I wondered about this pear perennially featured in the Henry Leuthardt Nurseries single-sheet "catalog." Leuthardt specialized in espaliered trees and included discoveries from the Long Island area, including this pear. A couple years ago I visited a friend who actually *had* one of Leuthardt's espaliered Atlantic Queens and it was fruiting *that* very day! I left with two pears. When Cammy and I sampled them a day or two later, they were delicious...as good as any pears I'd eaten that fall. Might keep in the fridge for a week or two if you don't eat them first. Z4 if protected. **ME Grown.**

1455 *Atlantic Queen*, \$22.00

Bartlett Late Summer. (Williams' Bon Chrétien) Seedling found in Aldermaston, England. Introduced to the U.S. in the late 1700s. Most widely planted and well known of all pears, accounting for 75% of the U.S. commercial crop. Adaptable to many climates and soils. Large yellow classic oblong obtuse-pyriform fruit; very good quality. Full reliable annual crops. Large vigorous easy-to-grow long-lived tree bears young. I used to think you couldn't grow Bartlett in central Maine, but I've changed my mind over the past few years. Now I recommend it as a good choice south of Bangor. Susceptible to fire blight, though that won't be up here until global warming catches up with us. (Thank you, George Bush.) Will not pollinate Seckel. Z4/5. **ME Grown.**

1461 *Bartlett*, \$22.00



Bosc Fall. Seedling in Lourain, Belgium, 1807. Also called **Beurre Bosc**. Oblong acute pyriform, or large and long-necked; dark rich yellow covered with cinnamon-brown russet. Distinctive sweet rich spicy buttery flavor. Melting juicy tender white flesh has smooth texture and a pleasing aroma. Somewhat gritty around the core. Good pollinator. Large vigorous upright spreading tree bears huge crops annually. A longtime favorite throughout central Maine. Z4. **ME Grown.**

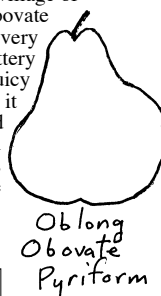
1474 *Bosc*, \$22.00

Comtesse Clara Frijs Late Summer. Denmark, 19th c. Very old delectable dessert pear, first described in 1858 by JA Bentzien in the Danish

garden journal *Dansk Høstetidende* and thought to be from the village of

Skensved. Medium-sized yellowy-green oblong obovate pyriform rather thick-skinned fruit sometimes with a very slight pink blush—more like a spot of rouge. The buttery aromatic flesh is firm but not crisp with no grit cells. Juicy but not dripping. You can eat it in the car. You can eat it right down to nothing. Keeps for a month. Solid rugged hardy tree. Many thanks to Jim Ozzello for sending us an article on Clara Frijs. Now we have a clearer picture of its origins. Jim rates it in the top two of the 22 varieties he grows in Wisconsin. Z4. **ME Grown.**

1496 *Comtesse Clara Frijs*, \$22.00



Oblong
Obovate
Pyriform

To contact MOFGA, the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association, phone 207-568-4142 or go to www.mofga.org.

Dana Hovey Winter. Thought to be a seedling of Seckel. Roxbury, MA, about 1854. Introduced by nineteenth-century fruit enthusiast Francis Dana who dubbed it *Dana's Hovey* in honor of CM Hovey, Boston nurseryman and author of *The Fruits of America*. Sometimes called **Winter Seckel** because of its similarity to Seckel. Small obovate obtuse-pyriform rich golden-yellow russeted fruit. Intensely sweet highly aromatic tender storage pear has excellent flavor; possibly the best eating of all winter pears. Keeps extremely well.

Harvest in October and store in a cool dry spot. Still great eating in December—sometimes even as late as February. Hardy vigorous moderately productive spreading tree adapts to a variety of soils. No scab and relatively few bugs. Z4/6. **ME Grown.**

Obovate
Obtuse Pyriform

1502 *Dana Hovey*, \$22.00

Giffard Summer. Chance seedling discovered by Nicolas Giffard, Foussieres, France, 1825. Introduced to the U.S. about 1850. Also called **Beurre Giffard**. Very high-quality soft dessert pear ripens in midsummer just before Clapp Favorite. One of the first pears to ripen in our orchard. Medium-sized acute-pyriform fruit with a small core has tender greenish-yellow skin with a dotted red blush and conspicuous greenish or russet dots. Soft melting slightly coarse flesh is very similar to Bartlett. Delicious. Pick them a little green and ripen them inside or pick them daily just as they ripen. The tree is medium sized, vigorous, spreading and productive. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1521 *Giffard*, \$22.00

Gourmet Late Summer. (SD F15 x Ewart) SD State U, 1988. If you like the idea of Asian pears but have been scared off by the lack of flavor and hardness, try Gourmet. Although similar in texture to the Asians, Gourmet's sweet yellow flesh has more flavor and less wateriness. It's a crisp pear that melts in your mouth. I've yet to become thrilled with any Asian pears I've tried, but I continue to be a big fan of Gourmet. Greenish-yellow thick tender skin with russet dots on 2" obovate obtuse-pyriform fruit. A very nice unusual addition to the mix of summer fruits. Produces a good crop in our orchard annually. Pollinated by Seckel. Very hardy medium-sized upright tree. Sterile pollen will not pollinate other trees. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1528 *Gourmet*, \$22.00

Kaspar's Winter Late Fall-Winter. Frankendorf, Germany. Very good tough-skinned storage pear will keep until April in the root cellar. Coarse flesh with a good flavor. Very hard off the tree; don't eat it until a month after picking. Greenish-mottled medium-small pyriform fruit with some russet splashes or dots. Years ago this nameless winter pear found its way from the roadside near Frankendorf to Unity, ME. The name came later, courtesy of grower Howard Wulf who calls it "the latest keeping pear I've ever seen." Sturdy adaptable hardy tree. Precocious. Z4. **ME Grown.**

1538 *Kaspar's Winter*, \$22.00

Luscious Early Fall. (SD E31 x Ewart) SD State U, 1967. One of the few recent pear introductions that deserves a place in the home orchard. Produces annual crops of delicious medium-sized oblong obovate pyriform fruit. Bears so heavily that it's apt to break branches. The soft fine extra-juicy off-white flesh is sweet and flavorful with almost no grit cells. Thin yellowish skin is covered with small tan dots. Anecdotal evidence suggests that it may crop best when grown near Bartlett or one of the Asian pears. Although some literature warns that Luscious itself is a poor pollinator, I'm happy to have it at our place. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1547 *Luscious*, \$22.00

Magness Late Summer. US 3866-E [Giant Seckel (SP149490) x Doyenne du Comice] USDA, 1960. Rich, melting, buttery, juicy, sugary, tender, highly perfumed and aromatic with almost no grit cells. Renowned plant breeder Elwyn Meader rated Magness as the standard by which to judge other pears in taste and quality. Medium-sized fruit is greenish-yellow with a light dull-bronze russeting, sometimes a crimson blush, and a short pyriform—almost oval—shape. Vigorous spreading tree. Will not pollinate other varieties. Fruit set can be inconsistent. One friend got excellent fruit set by mashing up flowers from other pear varieties and spraying them on his Magness when it was in full bloom. Worked great. Some insect resistance and excellent fire blight resistance. Keeps more than two months with refrigeration. Z4. **ME Grown.**

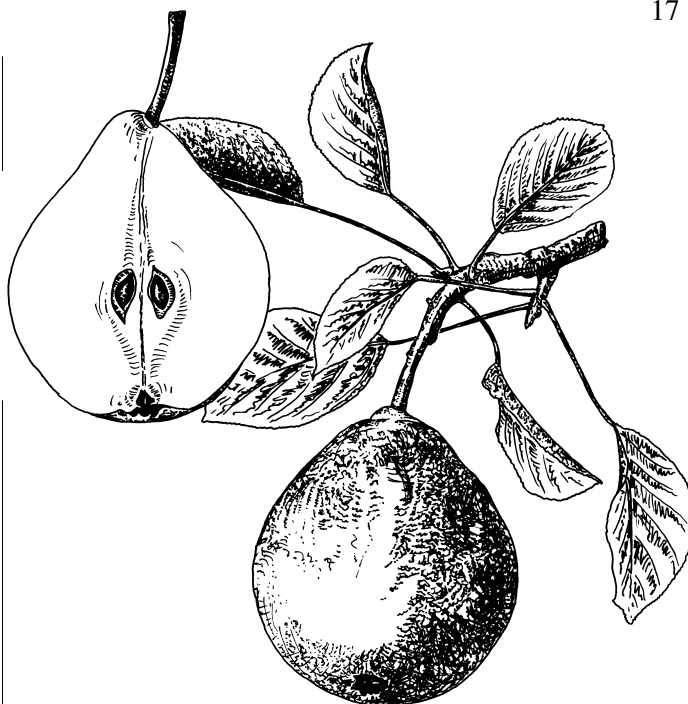
1552 *Magness*, \$22.00

Seckel Late Summer. Seedling near Philadelphia, PA, early 1800s. Sometimes called **Sugar Pear**. Usually considered the best-flavored of all pears; even the skin is delicious. Small obovate fruit is yellowish-brown russeted with slight red blush. Juicy, spicy, distinctive and aromatic. Eat ripe off the tree or pick firm and ripen later. Very productive annual-bearing large tree, easy to grow. The most reliably bearing fruit tree I have. Scab and fireblight resistant. Will not pollinate Bartlett. Z4. **ME Grown.**

1602 *Seckel*, \$22.00

Obovate

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.



Stacyville Late Summer. Unknown origin. Stacyville, ME. Medium-sized obovate obtuse-pyriform pears are light yellow with a beautiful orange to greyish-red blush. The sweet fruit has a delicious citrusy aftertaste. My tree began producing only a few years after planting. Now at age 17, it produces large crops of fruit annually. Many years ago friends told me about the pear and insisted that I make the trip to Stacyville in southern Aroostook County. When I finally saw it myself, I thought that the 50' tall vase-shaped tree was an elm. That tree, held together with cables, was extremely old but still bearing huge crops. Appears to be self-pollinating. Disease resistant, extremely hardy and very vigorous. Does not keep for long; use them up quickly! Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1615 *Stacyville*, \$22.00

Summercrisp Midsummer. MN N33201 (Gaspard No. 5), unknown parentage. U Minn, 1986. Brought to the Minnesota Horticultural Research Station by John Gaspard in 1933.

Large obovate acute-pyriform very sweet dessert and canning pear with green skin and a red blush ripens in August in Maine. A favorite of Donna and Chyp of Loon Song Farm in Hartland who bought one from us about 20 years ago and have been Summercrisp fans ever since. One reason Donna likes it is it comes on when you're looking for fruit, early in the season. "They're best crisp before they get supermarket soft." In fact, once they do soften, they go by fast. Donna and Chyp eat them fresh, can them in quarters and juice the rest. The juice is so sweet, Donna told me she has to cut it with apple juice when she's canning it or it will get fizzy and explode. Precocious, annually bearing tree, medium-sized with typically conic habit. Long considered the hardest variety in the Minnesota collection. Free from fireblight. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1620 *Summercrisp*, \$22.00

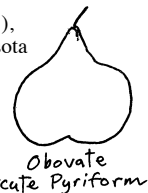
Tyson Summer. Jenkintown, PA, about 1794. The definitive 1921 text *The Pears of New York* calls Tyson's flavor "second only to Seckel," and says that the "tree is the most nearly perfect of any pear grown in America." Medium-sized acute-pyriform deep dull-yellow fruit with some russeting and no blush is very juicy, sweet and aromatic. Local lore suggests Jonathan Tyson discovered it in a hedgerow on his farm west of Jenkintown, or maybe on the grounds of the Abington Friends' school. Widely planted here in Maine for generations.

Our scionwood comes from a huge spreading specimen in nearby Freedom. Well over 100 years old, the annually productive tree lived through all the great winters of the 20th century. Tolerant of bugs, disease and weather. Fire-blight resistant. Rare. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1638 *Tyson*, \$22.00

Vermont Beauty Fall. Chance seedling. Grand Isle, VT, about 1860. Most of the high-quality pears are rather drab ugly beasts. Vermont Beauty is an exception. The medium-sized obovate acute-pyriform fruit is an alluringly attractive cheerful lemon yellow with a bright red blush that fades into pinkish-red dots. But don't let the good looks freak you out. The yellow-tinted flesh is tender, melting, smooth, dense, fine-grained and juicy, with very few grit cells. Excellent dessert pear that ripens after Seckel and keeps for 5 or 6 weeks. Medium-to-large healthy productive vigorous upright spreading tree. Susceptible to scab though I've seen none in my tree. Z4. **ME Grown.**

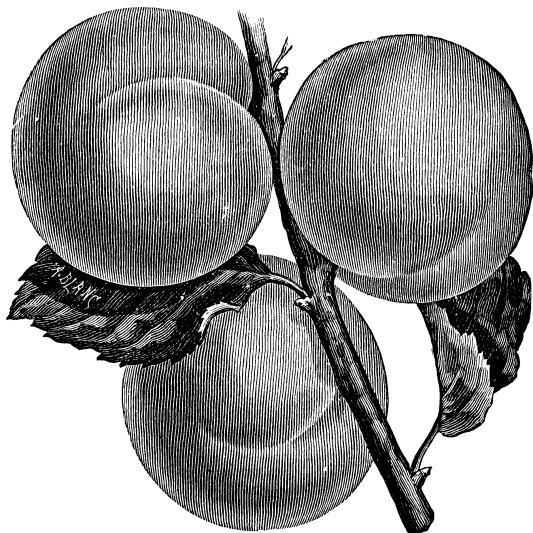
1645 *Vermont Beauty*, \$22.00



Stone Fruits *Prunus* spp. are widely cultivated around the world and adaptable to most of New England. Not highly particular as to soils. **Clingstone** means the fruit's flesh clings to the pit (or stone) and a **freestone** pit drops away from the flesh.

Apricots *P. armeniaca* are native to central Asia, cultivated there for about 4000 years, and only marginally adaptable to northern New England. Because their early blossoms are sensitive to cold spring weather, they are often planted with northern exposures to delay blooming. Large crops are possible, but uncommon, in Maine. The zone rating should be viewed as an approximation because much depends on your site.

Many thanks to Bob Purvis of Minnesota who has been coaching us on apricot selection. We will have small quantities of other varieties available at the Tree Sale. Plant 15-20' apart. **Self-pollinating.** (3 1/2-6' trees)



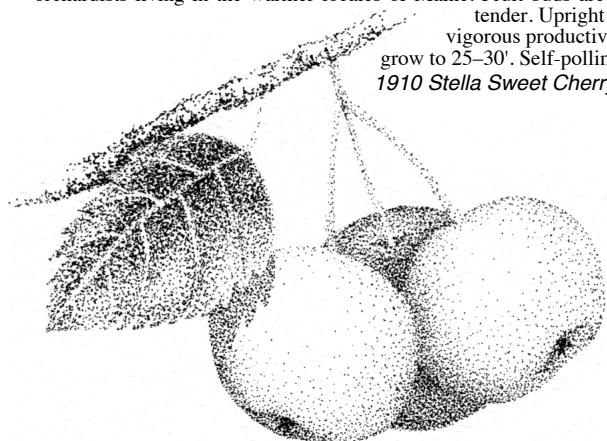
Jerseycot (RR18-64 x CR3-135) NJ Agricultural Experiment Station, Rutgers U, NJ. In our ongoing effort to locate hardy apricots for colder districts, Jerseycot is another with definite potential. Medium-sized fruit (approximately 1 1/2") round to round-oblong in shape. Light-orange with a slight green suture in some years and generally with no blush. The orange flesh is usually mild but can develop a melon-like quality. Very good eating. The fruits soften quickly and drop fast, making this cultivar unsuitable for commercial culture but fine for the home orchard. Late-blooming and very early-ripening (about a month before Puget Gold and about 5 days before Harcot). M. 604 is one of the grandparents of the cultivar, imparting both disease resistance and good cold hardiness. In very short supply. Self-pollinating. Probably Zone 5, possibly Zone 4.

1795 Jerseycot Apricot, \$22.00

Sweet Cherries *P. avium* are generally not hardy in Maine. Most grow into very large trees. We are currently testing some of the hardiest varieties and hope to have more of them available in upcoming years. (3 1/2-6' trees)

Stella Mid-summer. 2C-27-19 (Lambert x John Innes Sdlg. 2420) Canadian Dept of Ag Research Stn, Summerland, BC, 1968. The first hardy good-quality self-fertile sweet cherry. Large heart-shaped black-skinned fruit has juicy medium-firm black flesh. May be a disappointment to sweet cherry aficionados from the Northwest but could be like a dream come true for orchardists living in the warmer locales of Maine. Fruit buds are relatively tender. Upright spreading

vigorous productive tree will grow to 25-30'. Self-pollinating. Z4.
1910 Stella Sweet Cherry, \$22.00



Pie Cherries *P. cerasus*

are called "sour," but they're delicious enough to eat right off the tree. They fruit in early to midsummer and don't mind heavy soil. They are especially good in pies. They are generally divided into two groups: Morello types have dark red spherical fruit, dark juice and relatively small compact trees.

Montmorency (or Amarelle) types have light red slightly flattened fruit, clear juice and medium-sized somewhat open trees.

Pie cherries are significantly harder than sweet cherries but can be frustrating to grow. Although the trees are fully hardy in Zone 3, flower buds may be damaged in colder winters. Some growers in Maine have reported large harvests only to have their trees die unexpectedly a year or two later. We regularly hear reports of excellent crops so we know it can be done. We are currently testing several promising varieties including some local heirloom discoveries. Our hope is to find pie cherries that will be consistently healthy and productive. We are very interested in your successes and failures. If you have had experiences you think might be useful to others, please be in touch. **Pie cherries do not require another variety for pollination.** Plant 15-20' apart. (3 1/2-6' trees)

Galaxy Late Summer. Montmorency type. Recent introduction. Dark red 1/2-3/4" fruit and clear juice. Similar to Montmorency but easier to manage with a naturally spiry stocky open growth habit. Bears heavy consistent crops. We purchased a bundle of these a few years ago on a lark and put them on trial. We have been very pleased with the results. Grower Delton Curtis eats the "sharp tingling" fruit right off the tree. "Once you get used to it, you can eat it right down." Small tree. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1930 Galaxy, \$22.00

Garfield Plantation Unknown origin. Garfield Plantation, ME. Heirloom pie cherry grown for generations on an Aroostook County farm. One of our most promising finds in our search for varieties that really do produce. Northern Maine friends introduced it to me a couple of years ago. Although the original tree is long gone, it lives on in the form of innumerable young trees that have suckered up for 100 feet or more behind the farm along the edge of the ubiquitous potato field. You could keep it to a single tree yourself by snipping off any suckers. Hardy, disease resistant, productive and extremely long-lived. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1932 Garfield Plantation, \$22.00

Mesabi Summer. Bing x chance seedling. (Sweet x sour cherry) Duluth, MN, 1964. Red skin and lighter red flesh. Considered to be a sour cherry, but sweeter flesh than other pie cherries. Recommended for sauce and pies. Heavy yielding and extremely hardy. Self-pollinating, will grow to about 10-14'. We recently consulted one central Maine grower who has been fruiting Mesabi for nearly 20 years. Thus far, the tree has remaining healthy and bearing. This is encouraging news; we are cautiously optimistic and will be adding Mesabi to our Fedco trials this spring. Z3/4.

1933 Mesabi, \$23.00

Meteor Summer. MN 66 (Montmorency x Vladimir) U Minn, 1952. Considered superior to Montmorency. Very good eating right off the tree. Also excellent for pies, canning and freezing. Easy to pit. Excellent dried. Bright scarlet-red roundish-oval fruit. Clear bright yellow flesh and clear juice. Mildly acid flavor. Has proved to be our most consistent producer while also being very susceptible to brown rot in some locations. Ripens after Northstar: mid-July in Central Maine. Reaches 12-16'. Z3. **ME Grown.**

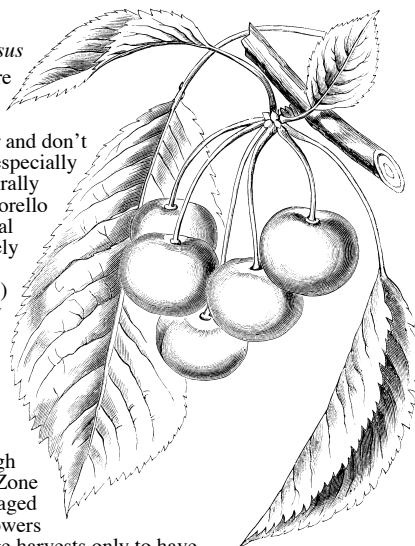
1935 Meteor, \$22.00

Montmorency Summer. Seedling of Cerise Hative or Cerise Commune. Montmorency Valley, France, before 1600. Introduced to the U.S. about 1830. The most famous of all pie cherries. Not widely grown in Europe or Russia but long the standard of excellence in the U.S. Firm-fleshed bright red fruit makes a clear light pink juice. Although apparently hardy in northernmost Maine, some trees have died unexpectedly. Appears to be resistant to brown rot. Vigorous productive medium-sized upright-spreading tree tolerates a variety of soils. Parent of the fine variety Meteor. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1940 Montmorency, \$22.00

Northstar Summer. MN 58 (English Morello x Serbian Pie #1) U Minn, 1950. Morello-type cherry can be eaten fresh when ripe. Large roundish heart-shaped fruit with a small stone. Dark glistening mahogany-red skin. Dark red meaty tender juicy flesh has pleasantly acid flavor. Very productive. A natural dwarf reaching 9-10'. Resistant to brown rot and cracking but may not be long-lived in many locations. Z3. **ME Grown.**

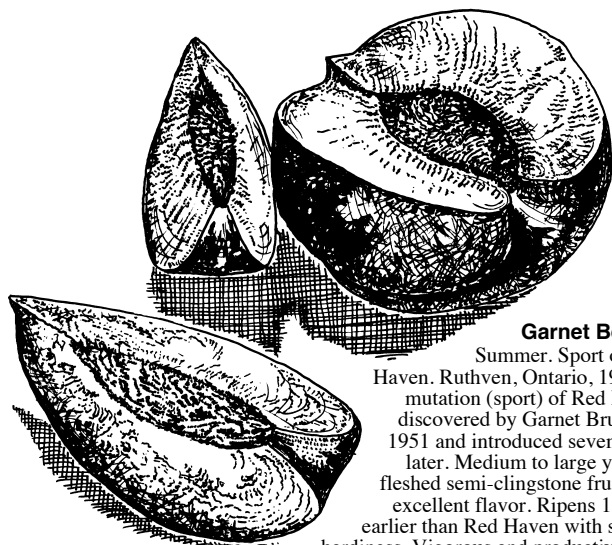
1950 Northstar, \$22.00



Peaches *P. persica* Although many people will tell you not to bother growing peaches in Maine, if you've been repeatedly saddened by the poor quality available in the supermarket, what's there to lose? Many trees in northern New England produce large crops. While these are certainly not like what you'd get in Georgia, they still taste awfully good. They bear young and so heavily that they may break branches if unthinned or unsupported. Peaches are usually unaffected by pests or diseases in northern areas. The trees may also die unexpectedly at any age. There are no truly hardy peach cultivars, although Reliance is considered the hardiest.

Some growers are miffed that they get no fruit after dutifully **pruning** their trees. Peaches fruit on last year's growth! If you prune it off, you'll get no fruit. Prune your peach trees in April or even May up north, once they begin to leaf out. Trim off any dead branches and leave most or all of the live wood. If your tree becomes leggy, make a few bold cuts each year back to a vigorous branch closer to the trunk. That will promote even fruiting throughout your tree.

Peach trees do not need a second variety for pollination. Plant 15-20' apart. Z5. (3 1/2-6' trees)



Garnet Beauty

Summer. Sport of Red Haven. Ruthven, Ontario, 1958. A mutation (sport) of Red Haven discovered by Garnet Bruner in 1951 and introduced seven years later. Medium to large yellow-fleshed semi-clingstone fruit with excellent flavor. Ripens 12 days earlier than Red Haven with similar hardiness. Vigorous and productive tree.

Good bud hardiness. Recommended for colder districts. 1978 Garnet Beauty, \$22.00

Lars Anderson Summer. Uncertain origin. Pastor Chuck Orchards, Cushing, ME. Large juicy sweet yellow-fleshed fruit. Lars Anderson's son-in-law Waite Maclin (AKA Pastor Chuck) brought this tree to my attention several years ago. Waite described the fruit to me as "tasting just like a peach should taste. When I give them away to friends and neighbors they think the peaches have been purchased in the South." Lars Anderson planted this tree on the Maine coast about 40 years ago. Lars died in 1981 but the family continued to maintain the peach. In 1982 a huge Nor'easter hit Cushing, blowing the tree to the ground and cracking it in the middle. Waite propped the tree on cinder blocks, repaired the crack with tree wound paint and wrapped it in duct tape. It lived through that winter and began to thrive. This is one tough peach! The family is able to harvest 3 bushels of fruit every year. We are currently testing Lars Anderson in Zone 4, but for now, it should be considered a Zone 5 plant.

1987 Lars Anderson, \$22.00

Madison Summer. Ideal x Red Haven. VA Station, 1963. A fine peach for the North, with hardiness similar to Red Haven. Medium-large fruit with bright orange skin and bright red blush. Orange-yellow firm fine-textured juicy flesh with excellent very sweet rich peach flavor. Very good quality. Skin peels easily. Freestone, excellent canner. Very productive tree. Exceptional tolerance to blossom-season frost.

1990 Madison, \$22.00

Red Haven Summer. Halehaven x Kalhaven. MI Ag Exp Station, 1940. Considered hardy, but not as hardy as Reliance. Medium-sized round fruit with beautiful red and golden-yellow skin and sweet firm fine-textured yellow flesh. Non-browning. Excellent for eating, freezing, canning, shipping. Probably the best-flavored peach we offer; also the world's most widely planted freestone peach. Hardy buds; vigorous highly productive disease-resistant spreading trees are tolerant to bacterial spot.

2005 Red Haven, \$22.00

Reliance Summer. Open-pollinated seedling of Minn PHO 4559 x Meredith. NH Ag Exp Station, 1964. Considered the hardiest peach. Medium-sized, roundish, freestone. Rather dull red blush over greenish yellow. Bright yellow flesh, soft and juicy. Flavor usually considered fair, but those who grow it in Maine love it. Often produces large crops. Bears at an early age. Appears to be resistant to peach leaf curl in our trials. **ME Grown.**

2010 Reliance, \$22.00

Hybrid Plums *Prunus* spp. are extremely hardy crosses between various Asian and American species.

Hybrid plum pollination has been glossed over—or avoided—in virtually all catalogs and fruit-growing literature for generations. Some years on our farm we were getting decent crops, but most years, not. We tried a number of different strategies as Fedco catalog readers will know. However Rick Sawazky at the University of Saskatchewan unearthed a 1934 article that quoted Prof. W. H. Alderman of the University of Minnesota: "...very few hybrid plums would accept pollen freely from other hybrids, but they all accept pollen from native plums." Perhaps the breakthrough we've all been searching for!

Our own suspicions, as well as our experiments, appear to corroborate this view. Here's what we recommend: plant a cluster of trees close enough together (3-6') for the branches to "co-mingle." Our "clusters" number from three up to nearly a dozen trees. Include native plum pollinators among the hybrids. With some decent sunshine during bloom, you should get good fruit set. Of course, plums are still susceptible to the small pesky insect, plum curculio. But PC is not difficult to control organically with Surround (see the Organic Growers section of the Seed catalog). And, with decent pollinators nearby, Surround may not even be necessary. This year we decided to skip Surround on one grouping of 8 trees and still got a good crop. Usually Toka, South Dakota and Kaga are recommended as the best pollinators among the hybrids. We also highly recommend planting pure *Prunus americana* or *P. nigra* seedlings or grafted trees in the orchard. (See #2028 and 2029.) Bloom times similar for all varieties. Not susceptible to black knot. (3 1/2-6' trees)

Hybrid plum collection A package of seven trees to begin your plum orchard. We will choose 7 different trees. The group will include three pollinators. **Plant trees in one cluster**, with about 3-6' between trees. Let the branches grow right into one another (see above) while still keeping them pruned to allow in plenty of air and light. **ME Grown.**

2026 Hybrid Plum Collection, bundle of 7, \$125.00

American Plum Seedling *P. americana* 15-20' Seedling plum that grows in thickets and produces very decent red, yellow and orange 1" fruit, suitable for fresh eating, canning and freezing. Spectacular white bloom in spring. Red fall color. Plant singly as a graceful specimen or plant 3-6' apart and let the branches intertwine for maximum pollination. Tends to sucker freely. May be the best pollinator for hybrid plums. See above. We are looking for stands of pure *P. americana* or *P. nigra* seedlings. If you know of any, please let us know! Plant one of these for every 3 or 4 plum trees, within 10' of each of them. Extremely hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2028 American Plum Seedling, \$22.00

Delton's American Plum *P. a.* 15-20' Recommended pollinator for hybrid plums. When I put out the call a couple of years ago for local native plum pollinators, Fedco grower Delton Curtis found this one in a Dexter plum thicket. Beautiful in bloom and heavy-fruiting. Plant one of these for every 3 or 4 hybrid plum trees, within 10' of each. See the explanation above. Extremely hardy. (Grafted tree) Z3. **ME Grown.**

2029 Delton's American Plum, \$22.00

Cocheco Summer. Purple Heart x unnamed red leaf plum. Elwin Meader introduction. Rochester, NH, c 1968. In a lengthy *Maine Sunday Telegram* article on September 8, 1968, Meader said, "It's an example of being able to have your cake and eat it. The new tree is beautiful enough to be an ornamental. It also has delicious fruit and windbreak value." As we sat together chatting in the gazebo last summer, a friend suddenly turned to me and said, "What is that tree?" Even at 100 feet away, it is a strikingly beautiful sight. Red twigs and buds in winter. A blizzard of nickel-sized light pink flowers in spring. Glossy red foliage all summer long. 1 1/4" red-orange fruit filled with soft sweet pinkish translucent jelly-like flesh. One of the first to ripen in midsummer. Relatively large tree with an upright growth habit. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2041 Cocheco, \$22.00

Gracious Late Summer. Mandan 41-15 [open-pollinated seedling of Emerald (*P. salicina* Burbank x *P. a.* Brittlewood) probably x Red Wing (*P. sal.* Burbank x *P. a. mollis* Wolf)] Northern Great Plains Field Station, Mandan, ND, 1957. Oval-to-roundish yellow-orange fruit with coral-red mottling. Yellow-orange firm juicy sweet flesh. Freestone. I usually think of this one as my favorite hybrid, perhaps because it was the first that fruited in our orchard. It is very good. Eat them fresh, dry them, make sauce or jam. Upright spreading tree. Rare. Z3/4. **ME Grown.**

2051 Gracious, \$22.00

Hanska Winter. *P. a.* x *P. simonii*. NE Hansen introduction, Brookings, SD, 1908. Medium-sized bright red fruit with a heavy bluish bloom. Firm fragrant yellow semi-freestone flesh. When cooked, the fruit has a strong apricot-like flavor reminiscent of its Chinese "apricot plum" parentage. The fruit resembles its sister seedling, Kaga. *Hanska* is the Sioux word for 'tall' referring to the tree's fast growth in the nursery. We agree! The specimen I have on trial has grown quite rapidly in the orchard. Though Hansen gave it a lengthy write-up in his 1927 *Plant Introductions Bulletin*, *Hanska* all but disappeared and remains one of the most rare of his introductions. We're happy finally to have it in the catalog. Z3/4. **ME Grown.**

2054 Hanska, \$22.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop.

Kaga Mid-Late Summer. *P. a.* seedling x *P. simonii*. NE Hansen introduction, SD Stn, 1909. Small 1" purple-black fruit. Good eating out of hand when they're dead ripe. Exceptional in jams and jellies due to the meatiness of the black flesh. This is not one of those plums that dissolves and dribbles down your cheek. The most profuse bloomer in Mark Fulford's plum collection, coming right in the middle of plum season. Mark considers it to be an excellent pollinator for other hybrid plums. It's also been bearing reliably in his Monroe, ME, orchard. I have now planted it and will test it in Palermo. Dense naturally dwarf tree grows only to about 10'. *Kaga* is the Sioux word for 'pitch a tent.' Z3. **ME Grown.**

2057 *Kaga*, \$22.00

La Crescent Late Summer. Shiro x *P. a.* Howard Yellow. U Minn, 1923. Also known as **Golden La Crescent** or **Golden Minnesota**. Most of the hybrid plum varieties are colored with some variation of red and orange with a little purple tossed in. Yellow-skinned *La Crescent* is one notable exception. The beautiful roundish tender thin-skinned yellow fruit is sometimes blushed with a little pink. Tender yellow juicy flesh of excellent quality is sweet, aromatic and suggestive of apricots. Freestone. Upright spreading vigorous tree. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2064 *La Crescent*, \$22.00

Pembina Midsummer. *P. sal.* Red June x *P. nigra* Assiniboine. Intro by NE Hansen, SD Exp Stn, 1923. Large pointy bright red fruit with bluish bloom. Dark golden-orange flesh is firm and apricot flavored. One of the first of the hybrids to ripen every summer, about the same time or a bit earlier than Underwood and well before the bulk of the plum crop. Bob Purvis, former North American Fruit Explorers president and longtime unofficial Fedco consultant, originally recommended we offer Pembina. He knew the plum in Anchorage where it survived -34°. Customers have asked about suitable pollinators. Bob suggested Toka, Underwood or *P. americana*. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2075 *Pembina*, \$22.00

Ptitsin #5 Unknown parentage. *P. sal.* (*P. triflora koreana*). Canadian Dept of Ag Research Station, Morden, Manitoba, 1939. Relatively small round tender-skinned yellow-green freestone fruit with a moderately heavy bloom. Aromatic smooth very juicy yellow flesh with excellent flavor. In 1939 L.V. Ptitsin of Harbin, Manchuria, sent a number of plums to Morden Station in Canada to help develop hardy Asian varieties. The result was several introductions, each with 'Ptitsin' in the name. We have Ptitsin #5 and #9 currently on trial. Both have proved to be hardy so far, but without a true test winter. Ptitsin #5 was reported to be not hardy at the Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm and was removed from their trial about 50 years ago. Should be pollinated by other Japanese varieties or native American pollinators. **ME Grown.**

2081 *Ptitsin #5*, \$22.00

Purple Heart Late Summer. Unknown parentage, from Enfield, NH. Brought to the great plant breeder Professor Elwyn Meader by a man who passed away before Meader could ascertain its origin. Usually becomes the instant favorite of anyone who eats it. Medium-sized fruit with red-purple skin and flesh, and a delicate but full sweet flavor. The most delicious plum we grow. Uncertain pollination requirements. Longtime grower Joe Vashon up near Bangor recently told me that he thought Underwood was pollinating his trees. If you have Purple Heart pollination experiences to share, please let us know. Not as hardy as other hybrids. Shows tip or even branch damage following colder winters in central Maine. Has shown susceptibility to black knot in our orchard. Relatively small tree. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

2085 *Purple Heart*, \$22.00

South Dakota Late Summer. SD 27. Unknown parentage, probably *P. a.* or *P. sal.* x *P. a.* U Minn/SD Ag Exp Stn, 1949. Because of its very long flowering period and American parentage, we recommend South Dakota as a pollinator for hybrid plums. In my orchard it's still blooming when the other plums have dropped their flowers. Small to medium-sized fruit has tough yellow skin with bright red blush. Medium-firm yellow flesh is meaty, juicy, sweet. Freestone. NE Hansen developed it sometime before 1907, and one of his students took it to the breeding program in Minnesota where it was later introduced. Vigorous tree. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2096 *South Dakota*, \$22.00

Superior Late Summer. MN 194 [*P. sal.* Burbank x *Kaga* (*P. a.* x *P. sim.*)] U Minn, 1933. Very large conical dark red plum with a heavy bloom and 'superior' dessert quality. Firm sweet yellow flesh is smooth textured, extremely juicy and clingstone. Very good fresh eating. During the terribly cold wet summer of 2004 when a number of my younger plum trees were hammered with brown rot, my Superior came through unharmed. I was impressed. Precocious production, vigorous tree. Z3/4. **ME Grown.**

2100 *Superior*, \$22.00

Toka Late Summer. *P. a.* x *P. sim.* (Chinese apricot plum). Intro by NE Hansen, SD Exp Stn, 1911. Rosy red fruit, up to 1 1/2" in diameter, mottled with darker purple red and covered with a faint bloom. Grower Don Johnson's comment was, "Talk about flavor: candy plum." Ed Fackler called Toka the best-flavored plum he grew in his Indiana orchard. Sweet, distinctive, meaty and flavorful. Not real juicy. Extremely vigorous tree blooms heavily every year. Diligent pruning may be required to keep it from becoming a bit of a monster. Considered to be a good pollinator for other hybrid plums. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2108 *Toka*, \$22.00

Waneta Midsummer. *P. sal.* Apple x *P. a.* Terry. NE Hansen intro, SD Exp Stn, 1913. Released one year after Kahinta, and with the same parentage, when hybrid plums were an important and commercially viable crop. Named after a Yanktonai youth who won fame in the War of 1812 and later became a great chief. Large 1 1/2-2" reddish-maroon fruit, slightly less pointed than Kahinta. Sweet tender translucent orange flesh is very juicy but not dripping. Medium-thick skin, tart and easy to peel. Delicious overall taste. Hansen said of Waneta: "My belief is that in this variety I have combined the best points of the native and the Japanese plum. It is probably the largest [fruit] of over 10,000 seedlings." Early blooming healthy open spreading tree bears reliably in our orchard. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2117 *Waneta*, \$22.00

European plums *P. domestica*

Although also delicious fresh, this plum is grown commercially for prunes. A true prune is a plum that can be dried without the pit fermenting. European plums produce smaller fruit and are generally not as hardy as the hybrid plums, though they can handle heavier soils and are less prone to brown rot. Unlike hybrids, they are prone to the fungal disease black knot, which looks like black chewing gum and appears on branches. While not necessarily fatal, it must be kept in check by removing and destroying infected branches. Trees grow upright and are usually trained to a central leader. Although **European plums are self-pollinating**, planting two different varieties will improve pollination. (3 1/2-6' trees)

Golden Transparent Gage Late Summer.

Seedling or sport of Green Gage, one of the oldest and most famous plums, dating back to 17th-century France. Also known as **Golden Gage**. Small-medium oval-shaped yellow fruit is sweet and easy to eat out-of-hand. In fact eating them often can get out of hand when the fruit is ripe on the tree. You can eat them like candy. The fruit quality is quite good and the tree is very hardy. So far it appears to be disease resistant. Highly recommended for northern growers. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2128 *Golden Transparent Gage*, \$22.00

Mooers Arctic Seedling Late Summer. Chance seedling, Ansel Taylor Mooers introduction, Ashland, ME, 1881. Also known as **Arctic** and **Moore's Arctic**. 1 3/8" roundish dark purple fruit with a bluish bloom. Greenish-yellow coarse juicy sweet fruit with a pleasant though not rich flavor. Smallish tree. Popular 100 years ago in colder districts and touted as the hardest European-type plum of its time. Long ago abandoned in favor of larger more flavorful varieties. Now, we are excited to bring it back because it may be immune to black knot, the scourge of the plum; we have our fingers crossed. Mooers himself was a dry goods store owner and postmaster with a passion for fruit. His obituary reads, "His trees seemed to be his life, and he spent the greater portion of his time among them, so that he was an easy man to find although rapid in movements from one part of his farm to another, for if anyone was in search of him it was only necessary to take a position under a tree somewhere on his place, and he was quite sure to come in sight directly." Z3. **ME Grown.**

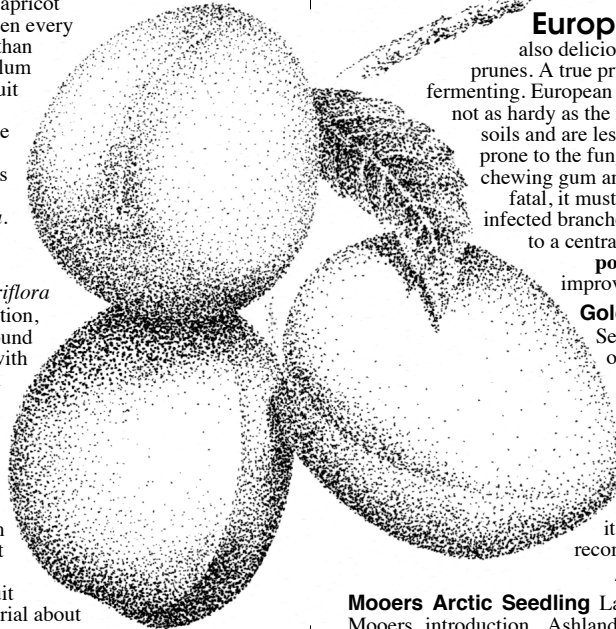
2147 *Mooers Arctic*, \$22.00

Mount Royal Late Summer. Chance seedling, Outremont, Québec, before 1903. Popular plum in Québec and the northern U.S. for many years. Also called **Mont-Royal**. Discovered by Mr. Corse in or near Montreal sometime during the period between 1830-1850. Bears abundant annual crops of medium-sized roundish dark-purple fruit. Often considered the sweetest of the European plums. The flesh is greenish-yellow, juicy and firm. Use fresh, dried, frozen, canned and in preserves. Medium-sized tree is open with good crotch angles and requires only moderate pruning. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2149 *Mount Royal*, \$22.00

Stanley Late Summer. *P. d.* Agen x *P. d.* Grand Duke. NY Station, 1926. Most popular European prune plum in America with the possible exception of 'Italian'. Excellent for cooking, eating, canning and drying. Medium-to-large fruits with dark blue skin. Green-yellow firm but tender juicy fine-grained sweet flesh. Reliably bearing fast-growing adaptable medium-to-large funnel-shaped tree produces healthy vigorous annual crops. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2180 *Stanley*, \$22.00



Small Fruits & Berries

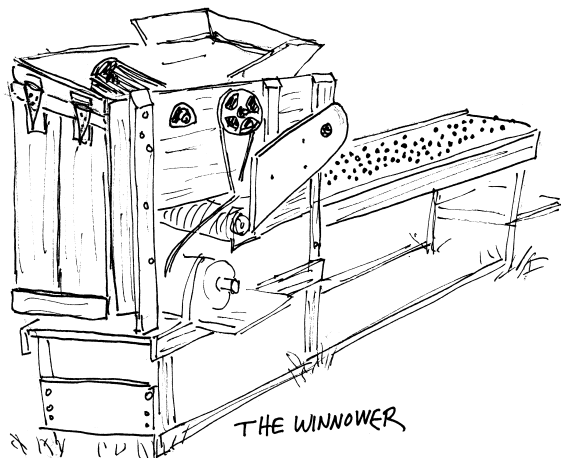


Lowbush Blueberry *Vaccinium angustifolium* 6x24" Blueberry growers in Maine usually don't bother with the "lowbush" distinction; to them, this is the only true blueberry. Though both plants and berries are diminutive, the taste is supreme. Lustrous blue-green foliage in summer followed by an amazing combination of bronze, orange and scarlet in the fall. Grown in Maine long before Europeans came Downeast, blueberries are still a local favorite, cultivated on thousands of acres. Commercial blueberry land is burned in the spring to clear out the weeds; a crop follows a year later. To speed harvesting, berries are usually raked rather than hand-picked. I do either, depending on my mood and the availability of my rake. You don't have to burn and rake to have a small-scale planting. Native to northeastern U.S. Z2. (2-yr transplants)

2260 Lowbush Blueberry, \$10.00

Lowbush Blueberries

Woodsy dry poor acid soil (pH 4.0-5.2) is a prerequisite for lowbush blueberries. If you've got white pine, you're probably all set. Plant 12" apart each way and cultivate as a ground cover. Generally self-pollinating; other blueberries nearby will help ensure pollination. Full sun is best for maximum fruit production. Keep your patch weed free.



Highbush Blueberries *V. corymbosum* are native to North America. While usually associated with New Jersey and Michigan, many of Maine's lakes are lined with massive stands of highbush blueberries. Grazing the shore requires only time and a suitable vessel; I prefer kayak or canoe. The beautiful vigorous shrubs are extremely easy to grow at home, productive and reliable, with few disease or insect problems. By planting several varieties, you can harvest berries from early July through most of August. **Two varieties are required, three or more recommended, for pollination.** (12-30" 2-yr old plants)

Bluecrop Early-Midseason. GM 37 (Jersey x Pioneer) x CU-5 (Stanley x June) USDA, NJ, 1952. Medium-sized firm subacid fruit; very light blue berries of high dessert quality, resistant to cracking. Medium-large open clusters. Vigorous, upright 4-6' consistently productive bush. Ripens over a long season. May not be perfectly ripe when they first turn blue. Give them a few more days to reach full flavor before picking. Pruning will help maintain fruit size. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2280 Bluecrop Blueberry, \$11.00

Blueray Mid. (GM 37 x CU-5) USDA, NJ, 1955. Large firm dark blue berries of high dessert quality in small clusters. Considered the best-tasting by nearly everyone who grows highbush blueberries. Very vigorous 4-6' bush with upright spreading habit. Consistently productive. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2285 Blueray Blueberry, \$11.00

Duke Early. G-100 (Ivanhoe x Earliblue) x 192-8 (E-30 x E-11), USDA, NJ, 1987. Recent release considered a big improvement over Earliblue, the standard early cultivar. Firm medium-sized light blue fruit with mild sweet flavor, excellent for fresh eating or processing. Vigorous upright high-yielding 4-6' bush. Long stems and loose clusters. Z4.

2295 Duke Blueberry, \$11.00

Elliott Very Late. Burlington x (Dixi x [Jersey x Pioneer]) USDA, 1974. A real season-extender. Considered the latest of all varieties, Elliott ripens two weeks after Jersey. Loose clusters of medium-sized very firm mild-flavored light-blue berries. Slightly spreading somewhat bushy upright plant is consistently highly productive in part because it blooms late and escapes spring frosts. Be forewarned: the berries may turn blue before they reach their peak flavor. Leave them on the bush until they are fully ripe. Check a few before you pick them all! Z4.

2304 Elliott Blueberry, \$11.00

Jersey Mid-Late. Rubel x Grover, USDA, 1928. The beloved old standard of blueberry introductions to which new varieties are compared. Medium-to-large dark blue berries in large loose clusters. Vigorous erect hardy bush, 5-7' tall. Productive, widely grown, adapted to a wide range of soils, highly praised, easy to grow and suited to the New England climate. Z4. **ME Grown.**

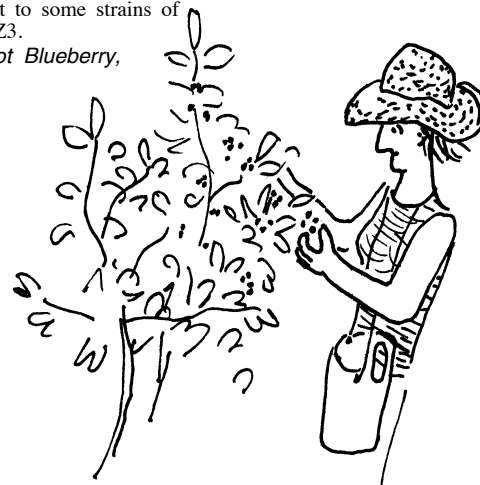
2310 Jersey Blueberry, \$11.00

Northland Early. Berkeley x 19-H, Mich St U, 1967. Early highbush x lowbush type bears long loose clusters of medium-small dark blue berries with excellent wild flavor. Very vigorous and productive, 3' moderately spreading bush has limber branches which tolerate snow well. Good for landscaping, bird forage and dessert. Hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2325 Northland Blueberry, \$11.00

Patriot Early-Mid. US3 (Dixie x Michigan LB-1) x Earliblue (Stanley x Weymouth) U Maine, 1976. Partial lowbush parentage. Adaptable to many soil types. Productive berry will fill your super bowl every year! Large firm berries with good color and excellent flavor. Upright open spreading 4' bush. Tolerant or resistant to some strains of soil fungus. Hardy. Z3.

2335 Patriot Blueberry, \$11.00



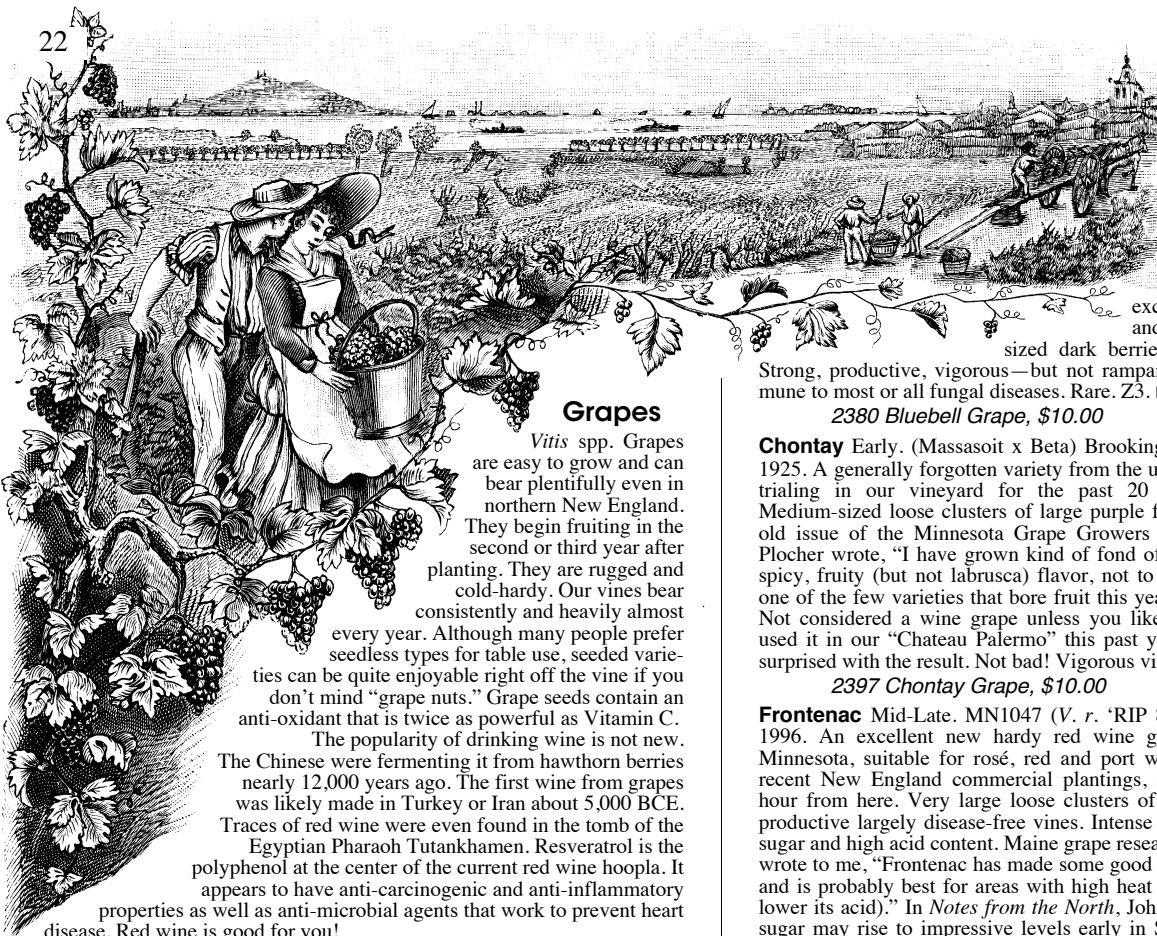
Highbush Blueberries are shallow-rooted and like light acid soil (pH 4.0-5.2), plenty of water, good drainage, and plenty of organic matter. Space them 3-6' apart (3' for the shorter varieties) in rows 8-10' apart. If your soil is lacking acidity, add peat, woods humus, or 1 cup elemental sulfur per bush.

Dig a hole at least twice the size of the root ball. If you use peat, soak it and then mix it with soil at a one-to-one ratio. We suggest soaking roots in Agri-gel. Plant at the same depth as in the nursery (or slightly deeper). Do not let the roots dry out! Pack the soil firmly and water thoroughly. Plants require at least 1" water per week during the growing season. On most soils, blueberries require regular applications of nitrogen. In the spring, fertilize with 21-0-0 fertilizer at a rate of 1-2 tablespoons per year-of-age plant (e.g., 3-6 Tb for a 3-year-old plant). Or use an organic equivalent such as 1/2-1 qt composted hen manure per plant.

Fruit is produced on vigorous one-year shoots off healthy canes. As canes age they become twiggy and less productive. Begin pruning after three years. Head back long pieces of new growth for a bushier plant. Cut out weak or dead canes and dead tips. Each bush should be allowed to grow 6-10 canes varying in age from one to six years old. Thereafter, remove dead canes and those over 6 years old and encourage new replacement canes. Bushes with regular moderate pruning produce the most berries.

Berries may need net protection from birds. One of the best arrangements I've seen is John Meader's netted "house" in Buckfield. He has about 40 bushes growing under a framework made of posts and 2x4s and completely covered in netting.

Competition with grass may weaken and kill your blueberries. Mulch heavily (3-6" or more) every year with pine needles, cardboard, wood chips, hay, sawdust, even old slab wood. When using sawdust you may want to compensate by adding extra nitrogen.



Grapes

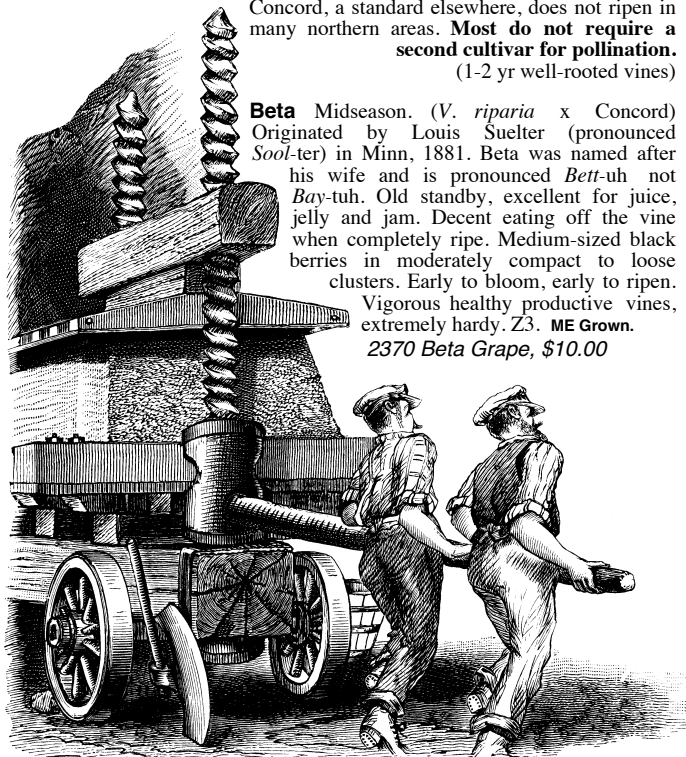
Vitis spp. Grapes are easy to grow and can bear plentifully even in northern New England. They begin fruiting in the second or third year after planting. They are rugged and cold-hardy. Our vines bear consistently and heavily almost every year. Although many people prefer seedless types for table use, seeded varieties can be quite enjoyable right off the vine if you don't mind "grape nuts." Grape seeds contain an anti-oxidant that is twice as powerful as Vitamin C.

The popularity of drinking wine is not new. The Chinese were fermenting it from hawthorn berries nearly 12,000 years ago. The first wine from grapes was likely made in Turkey or Iran about 5,000 BCE. Traces of red wine were even found in the tomb of the Egyptian Pharaoh Tutankhamen. Resveratrol is the polyphenol at the center of the current red wine hoopla. It appears to have anti-carcinogenic and anti-inflammatory properties as well as anti-microbial agents that work to prevent heart disease. Red wine is good for you!

Most grape varieties are bred from a combination of different species, *V. labrusca* and *V. vinifera* being the most important. *Labrusca* is native to the eastern U.S., has a wild tart musky (foxy) flavor, and is hardy and disease-resistant. Concord is the best-known of the *labruscas*. *Vinifera*, native to Europe, is extremely high quality, making it the most important wine grape in the world, but is not cold hardy and is prone to disease. Riesling and chardonnay are the two hardest pure *vinifera* grapes.

In central Maine, "very early" grapes begin ripening in mid-August, while "midseason" ripen mid-September. Late-season Concord, a standard elsewhere, does not ripen in many northern areas. **Most do not require a second cultivar for pollination.** (1-2 yr well-rooted vines)

Beta Midseason. (*V. riparia* x Concord) Originated by Louis Suelter (pronounced *Sool-ter*) in Minn, 1881. Beta was named after his wife and is pronounced *Bett-uh* not *Bay-tuh*. Old standby, excellent for juice, jelly and jam. Decent eating off the vine when completely ripe. Medium-sized black berries in moderately compact to loose clusters. Early to bloom, early to ripen. Vigorous healthy productive vines, extremely hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**
2370 Beta Grape, \$10.00



Bluebell Mid. MN 158 (Beta x unknown) Developed by JM Dorsey, U Minn, 1944. Our most popular seeded grape; it does everything well. Extremely hardy, to -30°, *labrusca* type ripens 2-3 weeks earlier than Concord. Delicious sweet flavor makes them excellent for fresh eating, jelly and juice. Clusters of medium-sized dark berries with a heavy blue bloom.

Strong, productive, vigorous—but not rampant—vine. A joy to grow. Immune to most or all fungal diseases. Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.**

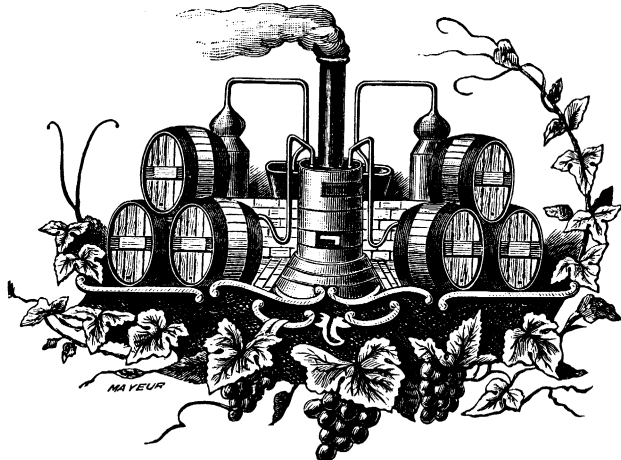
2380 Bluebell Grape, \$10.00

Chontay Early. (Massasoit x Beta) Brookings, NE Hansen intro, SD Stn, 1925. A generally forgotten variety from the upper midwest that we've been trialing in our vineyard for the past 20 years. We like this grape. Medium-sized loose clusters of large purple fruit. Good fresh eating. In an old issue of the Minnesota Grape Growers *Notes from the North*, Tom Plocher wrote, "I have grown kind of fond of this grape for its beauty and spicy, fruity (but not *labrusca*) flavor, not to mention its hardness. It was one of the few varieties that bore fruit this year following our -41° winter." Not considered a wine grape unless you like a strong-flavored brew. We used it in our "Chateau Palermo" this past year. We were very pleasantly surprised with the result. Not bad! Vigorous vine. Z3/4. **ME Grown.**

2397 Chontay Grape, \$10.00

Frontenac Mid-Late. MN1047 (*V. r.* 'RIP 89' x Landot 4511) U Minn, 1996. An excellent new hardy red wine grape from the University of Minnesota, suitable for rosé, red and port wines. Becoming a favorite in recent New England commercial plantings, including two within half an hour from here. Very large loose clusters of small berries. Vigorous very productive largely disease-free vines. Intense juice color, low tannins, high sugar and high acid content. Maine grape researcher and tester Jerry Rodman wrote to me, "Frontenac has made some good wines, but is very high in acid and is probably best for areas with high heat accumulation (which helps to lower its acid)." In *Notes from the North*, John Marshall adds, "Though the sugar may rise to impressive levels early in September, the grapes are not nearly ripe. Ignore the sugar levels and wait until September 20th. The acid will drop and the wonderful black cherry flavors that will make this grape famous will multiply." Z4/5.

2435 Frontenac Grape, \$10.00



Grapes prefer soils with pH of 5.8-7.0. They benefit from full sun and high heat. Try planting them near a stone wall, a big boulder, or the south side of a building. Although soil should not be rich, it should be well-drained with plenty of organic matter. Space 8-12' apart in rows 8-12' apart.

Spread the roots out, planting the crown even with the soil surface. Do not prune roots. Pack soil well. Water and mulch well. After frost danger has passed, prune vines back to 3-5 strong buds. In later years spread compost and mulch with hay or straw.

Grapes require annual pruning and a trellis or arbor, though in Italy they grow them in maple trees. All systems for growing grapes involve removal of most growth in spring or late fall to encourage new canes, as fruit is produced on these canes. There are many systems for training grapes. Some are suited to laying down and covering tender varieties over winter. Any good book on grape growing will show you several options. We suggest the Hudson River Umbrella or the Four-arm Kniffin system.

Grapes rated for Zone 5 can be grown in Zones 3 and 4. To prevent winter injury, remove the vine from the trellis in fall, lay it on the ground, and bury with just enough soil to cover. This task is neither difficult nor time-consuming, and does work.

Louise Mid. ES 4-8-33 (ES 2-3-17 x Kay Gray) Swenson introduction, Minn., 2001. Also called **Louise Swenson**. Very high-quality white wine grape that produces a light subtle aromatic table wine. Named for breeder Elmer Swenson's wife. Minnesota Grape Growers describes the wine as being "without any negative hybrid characteristics, and has a typical delicate aroma of flowers and honey. This wine's only significant fault is that it is rather light in body. Blending with a variety such as *Prairie Star* makes it a more complete wine." In a phone conversation, grower John Marshall told me that "the two [*Louise* and *Prairie Star*] go hand in hand." *Louise* "needs to be stiffened up." It is extremely reliable and moderately vigorous. Small-medium clusters. Disease resistant. Buds-out relatively late in the spring. Extremely hardy, to -40° . Z3.

2461 *Louise Grape*, \$10.00

Marquette Mid to Late. MN 1211

(MN 1094 x Rivat 262) U Minn., 2006. A wine grape that many northern growers have long-awaited. One parent, MN 1094, has both *V. riparia* and *V. vinifera* in its background. The other, Rivat 262, is a French hybrid with pinot noir as one of its parents. Not only is *Marquette* heavy with *vinifera*, the vines are also extremely hardy. And there's more: sugar levels are high—in the range of 26.1 Brix—and the acid levels are lower than *Frontenac*. Substantial tannins will add complexity to your "pinot noir"-style red table wine. Small-medium bluish-black berries in small-medium sized clusters. Ripens a few days before *Frontenac*. Z3

2465 *Marquette Grape*, \$10.50

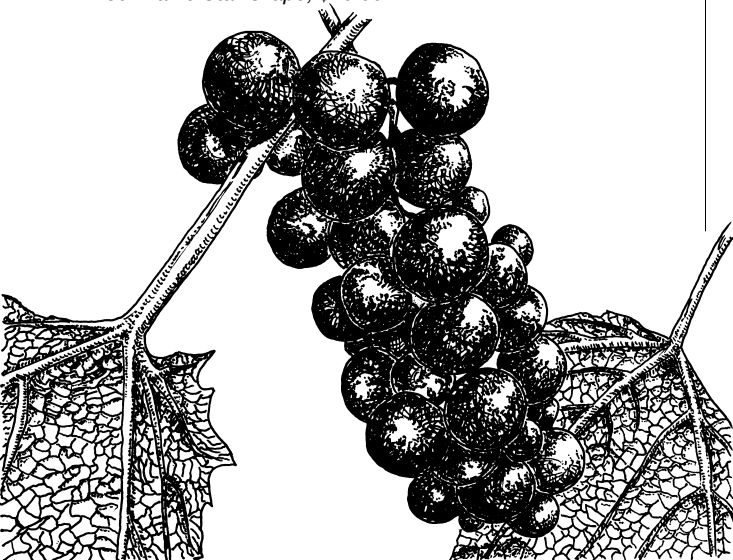
Petite Jewel Early to Very Early. ES 3-20-36. (MN 78

x *Canadice*) Swenson intro, Minn., 1999. Very small pink or light red seedless grape with exquisite flavor. Slightly larger than a garden pea. Pennsylvania grower Ike Kerschner wrote in an email to me, "The flavor in my opinion is superior to *Canadice* and possibly the best flavored out of my collection of most of the available eastern seedless grapes....When selling *Petite Jewel* [at farmers market] there is always a reluctance by buyers because of the small berry size. One taste convinces even the most skeptical customer." John Marshall called *Petite Jewel* "very tasty, even remarkably tasty." No objectionable seed remnants in the fruit. Small loose clusters. While Minnesota growers have largely given up on *Petite Jewel* due to its marginal hardiness, it has done well so far in our central Maine trials. I would say it is harder than both *Reliance* and *Canadice*. Z4/5. In short supply; order early. ME Grown.

2477 *Petite Jewel Grape*, \$10.00

Prairie Star Mid. ES 3-24-7 (ES 2-7-13 x ES 2-8-1) Swenson intro, Minn., 2000. Blocky long slightly loose clusters of medium-sized white fruit. Excellent sugar and acidity for winemaking. Makes a nice classy varietal with no foxy flavor. Tom Plocher and Bob Parke reported in *Notes from the North* that the wine has "a fullness in the mouth and finish that is uncommon among our hybrids....In some years it develops a delicate floral nose that allows it to stand as a single variety wine. In most years however, *Prairie Star* is an ideal blending component to add body and finish to thin white wines." We recommend blending with *Louise* or *St. Pepin*. A favorite of Jerry Rodman who has tested dozens of grape varieties at his Litchfield, ME, vineyard. Prefers heavier fertile soils. Disease-resistant and very hardy. Z3/4.

2480 *Prairie Star Grape*, \$10.00



Reliance Seedless Very Early. Arkansas 1163 (Ontario x Suffolk Red) Arkansas Stn, 1982. Still the highest-quality seedless grape for the North, although the recently released *Somerset Seedless* is looking pretty nice. Good for fresh eating or juice. Large loose clusters of tender melting sweet pinkish-red fruit with a strawberry-like flavor. Stores well in a root cellar for 1-2 months. Seems hardy although it has shown dieback in our Zone 4 trials. You may need to lay vines down for the winter in colder areas. (See sidebar) While the literature cautions about *Reliance*'s disease susceptibility, our vines have performed well and have remained disease-free. Z4/5. ME Grown.

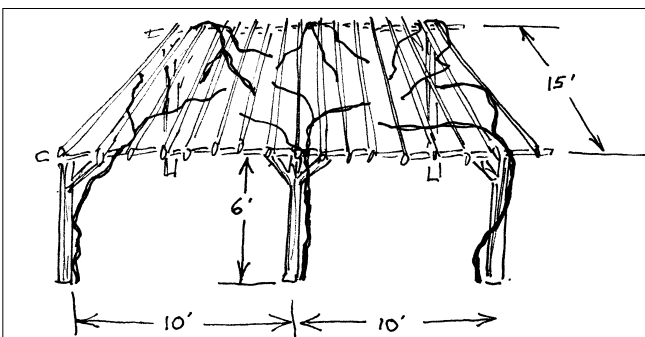
2485 *Reliance Seedless Grape*, \$10.00

Somerset Seedless Early. (ES 12-7-98) (ES 5-3-64 x *Petite Jewel*) Swenson intro. Although not as hardy as *Beta*, *Bluebell* and *Chontay*, *Somerset* is likely the hardiest seedless grape available today. One of the last Swenson introductions before the renowned and beloved grape breeder passed away in December 2004. Medium-sized loose clusters with small sweet ruddy reddish-golden fruit. Crispy texture and great flavor. Easy to grow but not overly vigorous. We're very excited to be offering vines this year. Although we have a fairly decent supply, availability may be limited so please order early. Z4.

2512 *Somerset Seedless Grape*, \$10.00

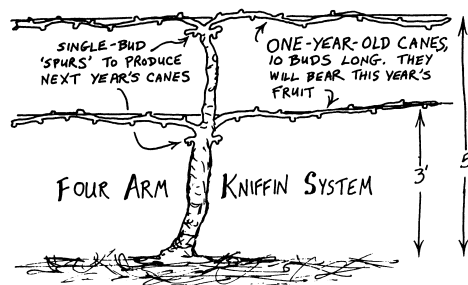
Vanessa Seedless Mid. Seneca x NY 45910. Introduced by KH Fisher and OA Bradt, Vineland Station, Ontario, 1983. Large bright firm red grapes with a fruity flavor. Medium-sized well-filled cluster. Don't forget to prune this very vigorous vine. Will ripen a month before *Concord*, so ripening in central Maine would not be a concern; however, hardiness might be. Considered harder than *Himrod* though probably not as hardy as *Canadice*. Z4/5. ME Grown.

2537 *Vanessa Seedless Grape*, \$10.00



Growing Grapes on an Arbor

Train one or more vines onto an arbor or gazebo. Encourage several permanent arms off the trunk and then every winter remove 70-90% of the the past summer's growth. Next summer new fruiting canes will grow off the permanent arms.



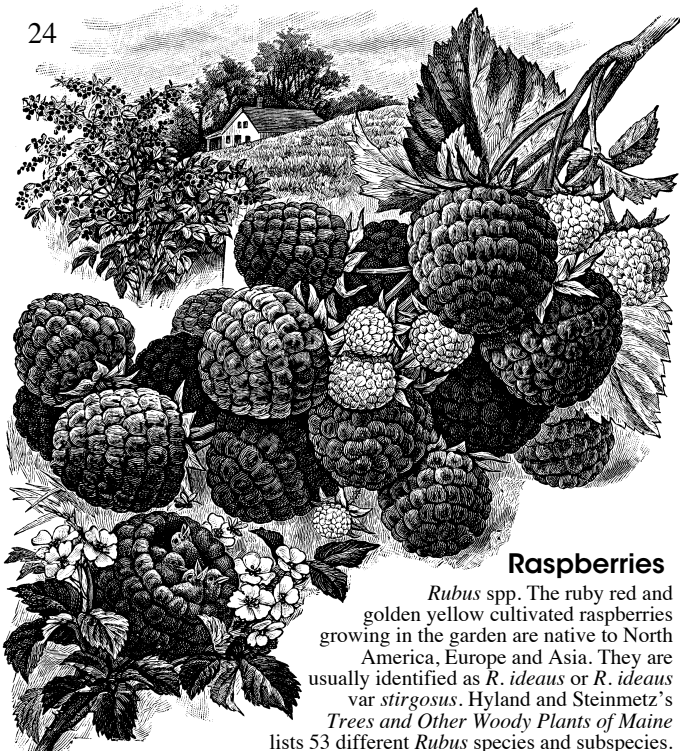
Pruning Grapes in the Four-Arm Kniffin System

First year: Cut plant back when planting to a single stem, 6" long with two to three buds, after the last danger of frost has passed.

Second year: Set up two wires, 3' and 5' high, stretched between posts. Cut plant back to a single stem, 6 feet long and tie it to the top wire. Leave 4-6 buds near each wire and remove others.

Third year: Select 8 canes, 4 for each wire, and remove the rest. Tie two canes to each wire, one in each direction. Cut these four canes back to 10 buds each. Cut the remaining four canes back to one or two buds each.

Later years: In the spring, remove last year's fruiting canes. Select eight new canes. Cut 4 of them to 10 buds each, and tie them to your wires. Cut the remaining four back to two buds each. These will produce next year's fruiting canes. Remove all other canes. The number of buds left on the fruiting canes may be adjusted to encourage more fruit or larger size.



Raspberries

Rubus spp. The ruby red and golden yellow cultivated raspberries growing in the garden are native to North America, Europe and Asia. They are usually identified as *R. idaeus* or *R. idaeus* var *strigosus*. Hyland and Steinmetz's *Trees and Other Woody Plants of Maine* lists 53 different *Rubus* species and subspecies.

Everbearing types bear on first-year canes or primocanes.

Everbearing raspberries are particularly valuable for northern growers because they can die to the ground (or be cut to the ground) and still produce a sizable crop the following year. Most everbearers ripen too late for growers in Zones 3 and 4 and cold areas of Zone 5. We don't offer Heritage, a popular producer of high-quality fruit for that reason. This year we are offering August Red and Pathfinder, two of the earliest-ripening everbearing varieties. Both are extremely rare.

Summer-bearing cultivars bear on second-year canes or floricanes. Harvest leaves for medicinal use from first-year canes. A leaf and fruit vinegar is very high in minerals, and the leaf tea makes a great tonic for both uterus and prostate.

A second variety is not needed for pollination. Prior to planting, soak canes in Agri-gel (see sidebar; available here or in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Seed Catalog. (well-rooted bare-root canes)

Raspberries

Cane fruits have shallow perennial roots and biennial fruiting canes. They prefer full sun, good air circulation and well-drained soil, rich in organic matter, with pH of 5.8–6.2. Avoid soils where tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, strawberries or wild brambles have grown because they all are subject to verticillium wilt, which may remain in the soil. Plant rows 6–12' apart to facilitate cultivation. See below for planting distances. Before planting, work into the soil 15 bushels dry manure or 10 bushels fresh manure per 100 sq feet. A well-kept patch can last for 10–20 years.

Be sure each hole is large enough to spread out the roots. Do not allow the fine roots to dry out. We suggest soaking roots in Agri-gel for 1–2 hours before planting. Plant 1–2" deeper than in the nursery and then cut the canes off at ground level.

Cane fruits should be trellised between two temporary or permanent wires about 3–4' off the ground and 18–36" apart. Mulch with a thick layer of woodchips or sawdust. Fertilize liberally each spring with up to 100 lbs manure or compost, 8 lbs bloodmeal or 14 lbs cottonseed meal per 100 foot row. Plants require 2" water per week during the growing season.

- Summer-bearing varieties: Space 2' apart. After harvest, prune to the ground the canes that carried fruit (or remove them the following spring). Thin the fresh first-year canes to about 3–4" apart. They will bear fruit next year. During the growing season cut back canes to 5' if they are bending over severely.

- Purple and black raspberries: Plant in hills 3' apart. Basic pruning is same as summer-bearing varieties. As they fill in, thin to 5–8 canes per hill. During the early summer, pinch back tip of first year canes to 2½–3' tall. This will encourage lateral fruiting branches. These will need very little, if any, support and may not require trellising. In the following spring, cut these fruiting laterals back to 8–12 buds.

- Everbearing raspberries: Plant 9–15" apart. Because everbearing types bear fruit on first-year and second-year canes, you have a couple of options. In warmer districts (or for northern New Englanders with an adventurous spirit), you can leave the first-year canes to overwinter after they fruit. The following year, you will get a light crop in early summer from those now two-year-old canes, followed by a larger crop later from the new first-year canes. In colder areas generally you would cut all canes to the ground in late fall after the leaves drop, or in early spring; new first-year canes will fruit in mid-late summer.

Everbearing Raspberries

Anne Late. JEF-b1 (Amity x Glen Garry) Flavorful everbearing yellow raspberry, ripens earlier than Kiwigold and is actually yellow, not a washed-out pink. Large cohesive fruit with good flavor. Tall rangy productive plant may sucker less than other everbearing types. Mulching or adding organic matter to the soil will encourage more suckering which should, of course, improve yield. Like other everbearing types, you may cut it right down to the ground after the season (see sidebar). Z4.

2562 *Anne Raspberry*, bundle of 10, \$20.00

August Red Late. NH R7 [Durham x NH 102 (dwarf F2 seedling x Taylor)] x NY 287 [NY 18810 (Marcy x Indian Summer) x NY 20990 (*R. strigosus* selection)] Introduced by EM Meader, UNH, 1973. Everbearing. Medium-large red roundcap fruit with very sweet flavor: a good balance of tarts and sugars. Vigorous 40" canes fill the row and begin fruiting on about August 10 in central Maine, continuing for 5 or 6 weeks. Needs no staking. Some susceptibility to cane diseases—anthracnose and spur blight. May be more adapted to the north than Pathfinder, although our trials are not yet conclusive. If you have room, plant both. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2566 *August Red Raspberry*, bundle of 10, \$20.00

Pathfinder Mid. 67-10 (August Red x Cheyenne 62-17 (*R. strigosus*)). US Ag Research Stn, Cheyenne, WY, 1976. Everbearing. Medium-large firm red roundcap berries with very good sweet flavor and an unusual "woody wild" taste. Vigorous 48" canes fill the row and begin fruiting on about August 7 in central Maine, continuing for about 3 weeks. Needs no staking. A few years ago we planted Pathfinder on our farm in Palermo at the recommendation of grower Walter Morss of Boxford, MA. We eventually purchased all his remaining stock when he closed his business. In our Massachusetts trials, we left the primocanes to fruit the second year and have gotten two crops, the first in July, the second in August. Good disease resistance; possible susceptibility to spur blight. Z3/4. **ME Grown.**

2603 *Pathfinder Raspberry*, bundle of 10, \$20.00

Summer-bearing Raspberries

Killarney Early. (Chief x Indian Summer) Morden Station, Manitoba, 1961. Produces medium-to-large round crumbly fruit of excellent quality over a long season. Summer-bearing cultivar ripens after Prelude and before Nova. Sister of Boyne, but firmer in texture and brighter in color. Sturdy 4' canes. Yields consistently. Extremely hardy. Z3.

2660 *Killarny Raspberry*, bundle of 10, \$20.00

2661 *Killarny Raspberry*, bundle of 25, \$36.00

Nova Mid. (Southland x Boyne) Kentville, Nova Scotia, 1981. Midseason red introduced relatively recently. In our trials Nova appears to be harder than Boyne with fruit quality as good as or better than Boyne. Medium-sized firm somewhat acid bright red fruit. Summer-bearing. Upright productive minimally spiny canes produce long fruiting laterals which make the fruit easy to pick. Z3.

2685 *Nova Raspberry*, bundle of 10, \$20.00

2686 *Nova Raspberry*, bundle of 25, \$36.00

Prelude Early. NY 1009. NY St Exp Stn. The best berry for early-season fresh eating. Listed for the first time in 2007 at the suggestion of grower John Meader who wrote to me, "I'd strongly recommend Prelude. It showed hardness equal to Boyne last winter [2002-03] and fruits the earliest of all varieties I've observed (over 30)....Prelude would precede Boyne nicely; it has good fruit (taste, firmness, size) and seems quite productive; it fruits well over two full weeks." Firm red medium-sized fruit is easy to see and pick, ripens in central Maine in early-mid July. Can be grown as a primocane type or florican type. Suckers freely. Z4.

2690 *Prelude Raspberry*, bundle of 10, \$20.00

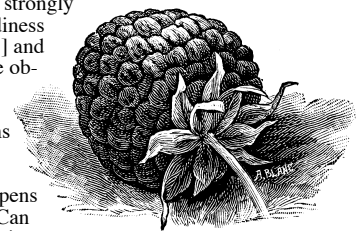
2691 *Prelude Raspberry*, bundle of 25, \$36.00

Royalty Purple Mid. (Cumberland x Newburgh) x (Newburgh x Indian Summer) NY Stn, 1982. Cohesive fairly firm large berries make outstanding jam and jelly and even better fresh eating. Their distinctive flavor is different from the red raspberries, with a hint of black-raspberry. Extremely robust minimally suckering plants are very productive and open-formed; the berries are right in your face and easy to pick. Ready to harvest when they are deep purple, somewhat later than the reds. Summer-bearing. Plant in hills (see sidebar). Usually considered Zone 4 but is proving itself into Zone 3 with occasional slight tip dieback. Does not like wet soil. Disease resistant. Z3/4.

2700 *Royalty Purple Raspberry*, bundle of 10, \$40.00

Agri-gel A hydrogel formulation which absorbs and holds water. The swollen crystals adhere to plant roots, reducing transplant shock. Safe, non-toxic, easy to use. Useful for garden seedlings as well as woody plants. Highly recommended for raspberries and conifers. Half-ounce packet mixed with one to three gallons of water will treat up to 100 cane plants, or 50 trees and shrubs. ½ oz.

7510 *Agri-gel*, \$2.50





Strawberries *Fragaria x ananassa* A major highlight of every summer is picking strawberries. Is that not heaven? Although no one knows where the common name *strawberry* originated, idle speculation has it that it comes from the practice of putting straw down between the rows for pickers to sit on while they sample the fruit and catch up with each other. Technically not berries or fruits at all, strawberries are enlarged fleshy receptacles. The fruits are those tiny embedded "seeds" (they're not seeds, but achenes which have seeds in them). Modern strawberries, developed about 1830, are a hybrid of *F. chiloensis* (native of Chile) and *F. virginiana* (native of North America).

Royce Bringhurst of the University of California-Davis developed day-neutral strawberries from wild plants found in Utah's Wasatch Mountains. He crossed these with modern commercial varieties and introduced the first day-neutrals in 1980.

50 plants will plant from 50-100'. (virus-free bare-root stock)

Earliglow Early. MDUS 3861 [MDUS 2359 (Fairland x Midland)] x [MD2713 (Redglow x Surecrop)] Maryland Ag Exp Stn, 1966. Medium-sized berries. Best for fresh eating and freezing. Excellent flavor for an early berry. Barbara Bowling called it the best flavored of all varieties in *The Berry Growers Companion*. Also the favorite of local strawberry grower Shaun Keenan. Incredibly, Earliglow even beat Sparkle in the 2006 Middlesex School alumni strawberry taste-off. Though I witnessed the event I was ineligible to participate. Resistant to red stele and verticillium wilt. Considerably more productive in southern New England than up north. Z3.

2770 Earliglow Strawberry, bundle of 50, \$13.50

Honeoye Early-Mid. NY 1409 (Vibrant x Holiday) NY Station, 1979. Tough, hardy, vigorous, extremely productive, and easy to grow. The freezer-filler of the strawberry patch. Large conic bright red fruit produced over long fruiting season. Firm flesh with tart—and surprisingly good—flavor. Excellent freezing quality. A week before Jewel. Probably the most popular commercial berry in the Northeast. Plant in well-drained soil to avoid red stele. Susceptible to verticillium wilt. Z3/4.

2775 Honeoye Strawberry, bundle of 50, \$13.50

Jewel Mid-Late. NY 1324 [(Senga Sengana x NY E-58) x Holiday] NY Stn, 1985. Added to our list at the suggestion of Shaun Keenan at Sand Hill Farm in Somerville. Shaun even went so far as to say that Jewel tasted almost as good as Sparkle. Although I don't think I'd go quite that far, I was very impressed with the berry. Large bright red glossy perfectly shaped fruit is firm, sweet and slightly aromatic. Unlike Sparkle, Earliglow and many other varieties, it keeps its size all season. Extremely popular with commercial growers. Good freezing quality. Low incidence of fruit rots and foliar diseases. Not resistant to verticillium or red stele. Z4.

2780 Jewel Strawberry, bundle of 50, \$13.50



Seascape CN 49. Developed by Royce Bringhurst, U Cal, Davis, 1991. Everbearing day-neutral strawberry sets flower buds regardless of day length, fruiting all summer and into fall. Remove flower buds for the first six weeks after planting and you'll still get a crop the first year. Seascape is showing excellent results in Northeast trials. Medium-to-long conic high-yielding firm productive reliable fruit with bright red color and excellent flavor. Produces over a very long season. Broad resistance to fungal diseases. Somewhat susceptible to common leaf spot and two-spotted spider mite. Should be hardy in all but the coldest districts. Probably Z4.

2787 Seascape Strawberry, bundle of 50, \$13.50

Sparkle Mid-Late. (Fairfax x Aberdeen) NJ Ag Exp Stn, 1942. Although not a favorite with commercial growers due to moderate crop size and smaller berries, I've yet to taste a strawberry that comes even remotely close to Sparkle. To me, they possess a flavor that can only be described as the essence of strawberry. The best in an early year, the best in a late year, the best this year, last year, every year. This is *the* berry if you want to eat the perfect strawberry. Soft berries make delicious fresh eating and are also excellent for jams and freezing. One of its few drawbacks is that it tends to lose color in the freezer. First fruit set is large; the rest are small. Resistant to most strains of red stele. Blooms late, rarely affected by spring frost. Z3.

2790 Sparkle Strawberry, bundle of 50, \$13.50



Strawberries

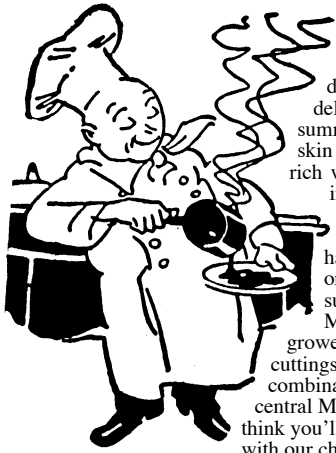
Keep cold or refrigerate between arrival and planting. Strawberries require good air drainage, well-drained fertile soil with pH of 5.8–6.2, thick mulch and full sun. Avoid soils where tomatoes, peppers or potatoes have grown in the past 4 years. Plant strawberries at the same depth as they were in the nursery, with the middle of the crown at soil level. Keep your patch free of weeds. They require $\frac{3}{4}$ –1" water per week during April, May, August, September and October. Mulch with hay or straw in late fall to protect plants over winter. In the spring, pull mulch off plants and place between rows where it will keep fruit dry and clean during the summer. It can also be raked back over the plants if frost threatens flower buds. Floating rowcover may also be used for winter and frost protection.

June-Bearing Strawberries

Matted Row system: Set plants 12–24" apart in rows 3' apart. Allow plants to produce runners freely and fill in the row. Remove all flowers the first year. Harvest berries the second summer. Immediately after harvest, fertilize liberally with compost or aged manure and renovate the row. By hand or with a tiller, narrow the row to 12" wide. Thin plants to 4–5" apart within the row. By this method a bed can last about 5 years. Then plow it under and start again.

Day-Neutral Strawberries (like Seascape) flower regardless of day length as long as temperatures are between 35 and 85°, and produce fruit from June to October. They are also uncommonly productive—about one pound of fruit per plant the first year, and slightly less the second year. Productivity peaks in August the first year. The second year, berry size decreases in the hottest weather and increases in cooler weather.

They are heavy feeders and benefit from 3–4" of manure worked 4–6" into the soil prior to planting, and monthly side-dressing of manure throughout the season. Plant 6–12" apart. Mulch with black plastic or thick straw immediately after planting. Remove flowers for the first six weeks, and remove all runners the first season. Mulch in late fall. Side-dress with manure monthly during the second season beginning in May. Till under after the second year and begin again.



More Edibles

***Actinidia arguta* Hardy Kiwi** Productive climbing vine that produces delicious grape-sized kiwi fruits in late summer. Unlike supermarket kiwis, the skin is smooth and edible. Easy to grow in rich well-drained soils. Will begin producing in 5-9 years. No significant pest or disease problems. Some growers have been frustrated with vines that have proven unproductive or not hardy. After consulting several of Maine's long-time growers, we collected cuttings from fruiting combinations here in central Maine. We think you'll be pleased with our choices.

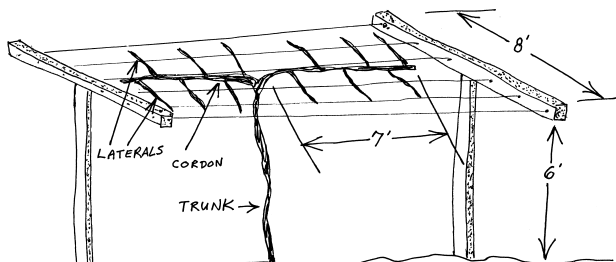
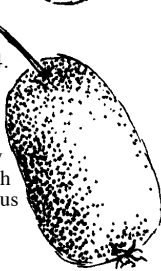
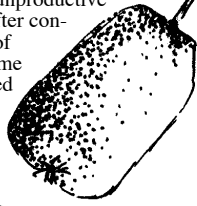
We'll be offering more varieties in the years to come. Both male and female plants required for fruit. One male will pollinate at least three females. Z4. (well-rooted 2-3 yr vines)

A. a. Michigan State (female) Summer. Michigan State University. Grower Tom Vigue calls the thumb-shaped thumb-sized fruit, "sweet and most highly luscious." The fruit is a bit sour to my palate. Although it might make you wince, the overall experience is joyous and delicious. Larger than other varieties.

2829 Michigan State female Kiwi, \$13.50

A. a. Meader Male Hardy male kiwi suitable for pollinating Michigan State female. One male will pollinate several females. Vines are often grown just for their beautiful dark green ornamental foliage.

2834 Meader Male Kiwi, \$13.50



TRUNK + CORDONS ARE PERMANENT.
EACH YEAR CUT OFF OLD LATERALS
AND LEAVE NEW LATERALS. FRUIT
SPURS WILL DEVELOP OFF THESE CANES.

Kiwis are dioecious vines, meaning you must plant a male plant to pollinate the fruiting female plants. They are extremely vigorous and require a rugged trellis or arbor and heavy pruning. Plant vines 10' apart each way in moderately rich moist but well-drained soil (pH 5.0-6.5). Plant a male plant within 30' of any female; one male will pollinate several females. Although the vines are quite hardy, the flowers and foliage are frost sensitive. Planting on a northern exposure will delay budding in spring and reduce risk of frost damage. Protection from winter winds and intense winter sun is also recommended. Mulch with hay or wood chips. On poor soil fertilize with compost annually.

On a trellis: Train a single trunk to the trellis wires and then train two permanent 7-10' cordons (arms) off the trunk. Each winter remove at least 70% of old growth, leaving a dozen or so one-year-old laterals. That year's fruit will develop on fruit spurs growing off these one-year-old canes (laterals). On extremely rampant vines summer pruning may be required to keep the vines from choking out your farm.

On an arbor or gazebo: Once established, prune 70% of the old growth each year and leave some new canes for this year's fruiting.

***Armoracia rusticana* 'Big Top' Horseradish** Exceptionally vigorous perennial with large dock-like leaves and spicy hot roots, savored for centuries for their culinary and medicinal qualities. Horseradish tea is said to be an effective control for brown rot on stone fruit. 'Big Top' is a newer strain with disease resistance. Deep taproot with numerous shallow runner roots. Choose carefully where you plant it because you may never get it all out. Even the tiniest root piece will produce a new plant. Prefers rich soil. Leaves can be cooked as greens. Roots are traditionally harvested in the fall, but you can dig them anytime. Roots keep 3-4 months in the fridge. Plant with the slanted cut down and the flat side up. Native to northern Europe. Z3. (#1 roots)

2860 Bigtop Horseradish,
bundle of 5, \$13.50



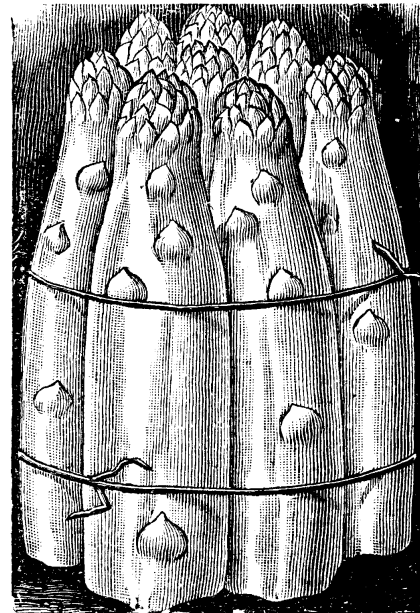
Asparagus officinalis

'Jersey Supreme' Asparagus Early. Rutgers U. A spring staple for well over 2000 years, asparagus is thought to have originated around the Mediterranean Sea, perhaps in Asia Minor. The pharaohs, Greeks and Romans were all aware of its highly nutritious qualities and delectable flavor. The earliest known American horticultural advertisement, from March 1719, is for "English Sparrow-grass Roots." Jersey Supreme is a brand-new all-male hybrid which is more productive than the older all-male varieties. Occasionally females will show up in a planting. Leave them be or rogue them out as you wish. Excellent tolerance to asparagus rust and fusarium crown rot. Produces high yields of large-diameter tender spears. Z4. (large-rooted 1-yr crowns)

2872 Jersey Supreme, bundle of 25, \$15.00

A. o. 'Purple Passion' Asparagus Early. Developed from the Italian heirloom *Violetto di Albenga*. Brian Benson introduction. Very large deep purple stalk with a creamy white interior. Purple asparagus are actually a type of "white" asparagus shown the light. Sweeter and less stringy than its green counterparts, so you can use more of the spear. Tender enough to eat raw in salads. Turns green when cooked. Z4. (large-rooted 1-yr crowns)

2875 Purple Passion, bundle of 25, \$15.00



Asparagus requires fertile soil with pH 6.8-7.2 and high levels of phosphorous. It doesn't like weeds. Plant when you receive your order or as soon as the ground can be worked. Plant 14-18" apart, 6-10" deep, in trenches 4' apart. Or dig your trenches somewhat deeper and fill the bottom with 4" of compost and rotted manure. Lay plants with crown up and cover with 2" of soil. Plants emerge very slowly. As young shoots grow, add soil gradually, just covering the shoots, until the trench is full. In late fall, remove dead stalks and mulch with 3" of manure.

Second summer: Add lime, rock fertilizers, and nitrogen as needed. Control weeds but do not injure crowns.

Later years: Same routine but increase fertilizer. Be sure to leave some spears each year to grow stalks that will support the roots and give you more spears next year. Keep the bed weed free and mulched heavily.

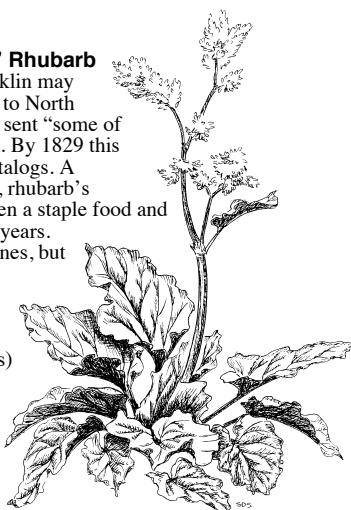
New research shows that asparagus can be selectively harvested for 2 weeks during the second growing season, for 4 weeks in the third, and a full season thereafter. We recommend caution in harvesting. Before the third or fourth season, only the largest shoots from vigorous plants should be removed, as the young plants need to establish themselves.

Rheum rhabarbarum 'MacDonald' Rhubarb

MacDonald College, Quebec. Ben Franklin may have been the first to introduce rhubarb to North America. In 1770, while in England, he sent "some of the true Rhubarb seed" to John Bartram. By 1829 this Siberian plant was appearing in U.S. catalogs. A perennial herb of the buckwheat family, rhubarb's clumps of juicy acid leaf stalks have been a staple food and medicine every spring for thousands of years. Most famous these days for pies and wines, but also great for sauces, breads and juices.

MacDonald has extremely vigorous productive upright large tender stalks, deep red inside and out. Leaves not edible. Native to Russia. Z3. (#1 crowns)

2880 MacDonald Rhubarb,
bundle of 2, \$13.50

**Rhubarb**

Plant the top of the root division level with the surface in well-prepared well-drained rich slightly acid soil (pH 5.5-6.5) and a bushel of well-rotted manure or compost under each crown. When plants are established, fertilize liberally with manure and balanced garden fertilizer or compost every spring, as it's a heavy feeder. Harvest for four weeks two years after planting. Thereafter you can harvest for 8-10 weeks each year. Never remove more than 2/3 of the stalks from a plant.

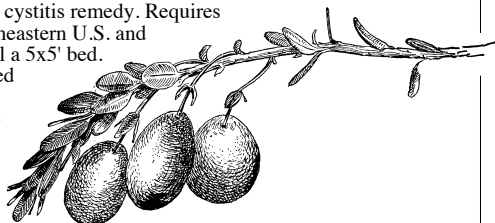
Every ten years or so, divide plants in early spring, leaving about 1/3 of the crown in place. Cut up the remainder into fist-sized pieces and replant.

Vaccinium macrocarpon American Cranberry This is the cranberry of holiday sauces, bread and jelly. Dense low lustrous evergreen ground cover, reddish purple in fall and loaded with 1/2" light yellow to orange to reddish-maroon berries that color more after harvest. Makes a beautiful and edible "lawn." Handpick or rake like blueberries before hard frost. Use fresh, freeze, or store in a cool basement or root cellar for months.

Berries are a well-known cystitis remedy. Requires acidic soil, native to northeastern U.S. and Canada. 10 plants will fill a 5x5' bed.

Z2. **ME Grown.** (well-rooted plants with 3-4 runners)

2890 American Cranberry,
bundle of 10,
\$17.00



American Cranberries are shallow-rooted and require light acid soil (pH 4.0-5.5), preferably cool, moist and high in organic matter, similar to soil in which blueberries grow well. Will grow in dry locations. Though often flooded for frost protection and convenience in commercial operations, flooding is not necessary in home plots. Plant them in spring once the ground can be worked. They do well in a bed or in a naturalized setting. We no longer recommend mixing in sulfur to acidify the soil (see directions below). Sulfur is slow-acting and should be added to soil surface in subsequent years if necessary. Mixing it into the soil can damage tender young roots.

Instructions for a 5x5' bed (10 plants):

For acidic "blueberry" soils: If you're fortunate to have a site where blueberries grow naturally, clear a spot of vegetation, cultivate the soil, add some peat and sand if you like, and you're ready to plant.

Sandy soils: Remove soil 10" deep and mix soil with 2 bales of damp peat moss. Replace mixture in bed and cover with 2" of sand.

Clay or silty soils: Remove soil 10" deep and place it around the edge of the bed as a berm. Replace the soil with a 50-50 mix of soil and peat (about 2 bales of peat). Cover with an additional 2" of sand. Plant cranberries 12" apart, so the roots are in the peat and the sand is covering the lower portion of the stems.

Remove all weeds as needed. Water the plants weekly so that the peat is moist but not saturated. Add nitrogen at a rate of 1/3-1 lb (or 20-50 pounds of manure) per 100 sq feet each year. No pesticides should be necessary.

Handpick before first hard frost when berries are red.

In late fall, cover the bed to protect the plants from the drying effect of winter winds. Use a mulch of leaves or pine needles; or cover with polyester row cover and then clear plastic; or cover with row cover and then plenty of leaves. If you use row cover or plastic, you may want to bait for mice under the plastic.

Remove mulch in early April. Protect flower buds from 28° frosts by covering with plastic during frosty nights.

Every two years partially cover the plants with a 1/2-1" layer of sand in spring before growth begins. This will help produce more berries and keep weeds down.

Fruiting Shrubs and Trees

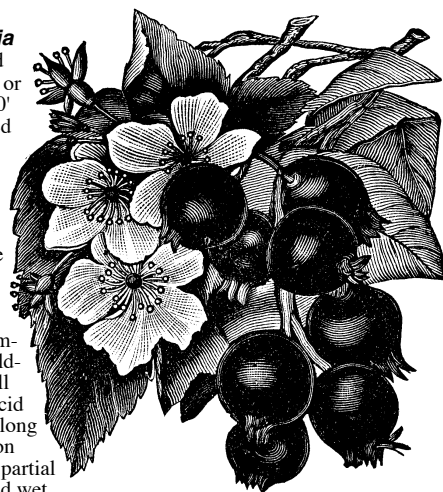
These additional fruit-bearing trees and shrubs make beautiful hedges and attract birds and other wildlife. Many produce quite edible fruit as well. **Plant more than one of a kind to ensure pollination for fruit production.**

Amelanchier alnifolia

Juneberry Also called **Western Serviceberry** or **Saskatoon**. 4-20' x 4-10'

Attractive multistemmed tree or large shrub with large (1/2") blueberry-like sweet purplish berries in July. Fragrant white flowers bloom in early spring. Berries are good in pies, jams, fresh or dried. Used by native peoples in western prairies to make pemmican. Popular with wildlife. Nice red-orange fall color. Prefers slightly acid soil (pH 5-7). Thrives along stream beds as well as on rocky slopes. Tolerates partial shade, salt, pollution and wet spots but not standing water. May get leaf diseases in warmer, humid areas. Native to northwestern North America. Z2. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)

2915 Juneberry, \$13.50

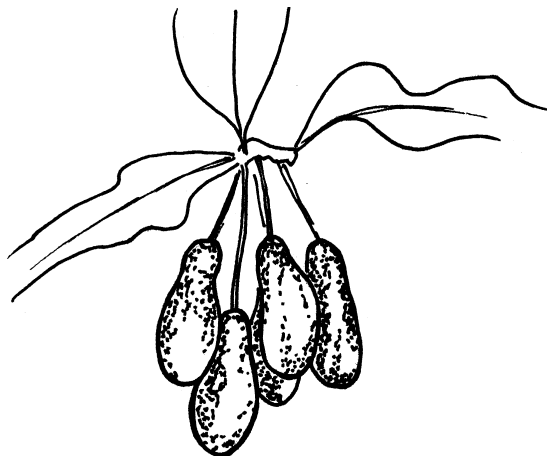
**A. laevis Allegheny Serviceberry** 20-40'x15-20' Also called **Shadbush**.

The most common Amelanchier in Maine. The unique orange-bronzed color of the unfolding leaves on this small tree is one of my favorite spring sights. The foliage is followed by pendulous white blossoms followed by dark-purplish berries that ripen in midsummer. The berries are delicious to human, beast and bird, especially cedar waxwings. All the Amelanchiers are quite similar to one another and the various species can be difficult to tell apart. Additionally, they cross easily with one another, and what you see in the woods may be a natural hybrid. Fortunately, they are all quite beautiful and all produce fruit worthy of any pie. We have offered different selections in the past and will continue to do so in the future. Likes well-drained acid soils along the edge of fields, streams and roads. Native midwest to eastern U.S. and Canada. Z4. **ME Grown.** (18-30" transplants)

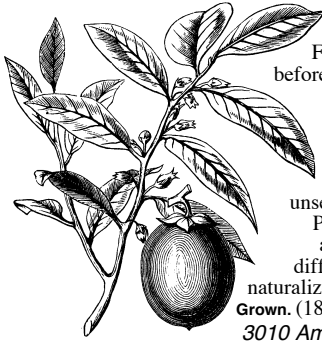
2946 Allegheny Serviceberry, \$13.50

Cornus mas Cornelian Cherry 20-25' Large multistemmed shrub with oval to rounded form, or a small tree if you prune lower branches. Covered with small bright yellow flower clusters for 3 weeks in early spring, even before forsythia. Attractive long ovate leaves are shiny rich green. Bears profusions of dark red—almost black—small oblong cherry-like fruit from mid-late summer into fall. Fruit is variable but can be sweet, tart and tasty, and is traditionally used fresh, dried, pickled, in tarts, jellies, syrups and drinks. Best for fresh eating when dark red and slightly soft. We are currently trialing a number of varieties and are teaching ourselves to graft them. Some of the fruit I've sampled is really good. Stay tuned. Folkloric use for skin disorders, joint pains and stomach upset. Extremely tough useful wood. Flaky exfoliating bark. Easy to grow, pest- and fungus-free and very long lived. Excellent as a hedge or specimen. Prefers well-drained soils but adapts to most soils, city conditions, even shade. Drought tolerant. Pest problems negligible. Resistant to deer browsing. Fruit buds tend to escape early spring frosts although they can be injured in colder areas. Self-pollinating, though pollination may improve with more trees. Native to eastern Europe and western Asia. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

3000 Cornelian Cherry, \$14.00



Diospyros virginiana American Persimmon 35-60' x 20-35' Medium-sized native tree with a slender oval crown, glossy dark-green foliage, beautiful checked bark, and edible 1 1/2" orange fruit. Small very fragrant yellowish flowers in spring attract



pollinators from miles around. Foliage turns attractive reddish-purple in fall. Fruit is variable and extremely astringent before becoming thoroughly ripe. Best after a frost. Be sure it's soft before you bite. Your mouth just might implode! Use in pies, jams and jelly. May not ripen north of Boston. Dioecious. Separate male and female trees. These are unsexed seedlings. Plant 3-4 to ensure fruit. Prefers moist well-drained sandy soil but adapted to dry areas of low fertility. Not difficult to transplant. Can sucker and form naturalized stands. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (18-36" transplants)

3010 American Persimmon, \$15.00

Humulus lupulus Common Hop Late summer. Up to 20-30' Not only for brewmeisters, although it has been used for brewing for over 1000 years. Beautiful twining vine covers a trellis, an archway or the entire side of a barn with green lobed leaves, bristly stems, insignificant greenish flowers, followed by the hops themselves: papery aromatic cone-like strobiles that are used in brewing and insomnia remedies. For brewing, there are basically two types of hops. Aroma hops have lower alpha acids and are used for flavoring, finishing or conditioning brews. Bitter hops have higher alpha acids and are used to impart bitterness. Tolerates shade, adapted to most well-drained soils. Dies back to the ground in fall and rebounds more vigorously each year. Plant it where you want it because it really takes over. No serious pests or diseases. Native to Eurasia. Z3. (5-6" female rhizomes)

H. I. 'Cascade' USDA 19124 (Fuggle x Serebrianka-Fuggle S) x open pollinated. Oregon St U, 1972. Fragrantly aromatic hop, low bittering value. A customer wrote, "While it's true that Budweiser waves a frond of this variety over their vats of 'sparkling, fermented rice and corn beverage,' Cascade has gained impeccable renown as the charismatic hop in such unsurpassable ales as Anchor's 'Liberty Ale', Sierra Nevada's 'Pale Ale' and McNeill's 'Firehouse Amber Ale'. Nothing 'light' about these." Resistant to downy mildew.

3030 Cascade Hops, bundle of 3, \$15.00



H. I. 'Willamette' USDA 21003 x Fuggle Seedling 2-4, USDA, 1976. Excellent all-purpose hop. Old English-style aroma with brewing characteristics similar to Fuggle. Low bittering. Spicy aroma. Good finishing hop for brewing English ales and stout. Vigorous. Higher yielding than Fuggle. Ripens midseason (late summer) and has good disease resistance.

3034 Willamette Hops, bundle of 3, \$15.00

Hops

Refrigerate slightly moistened rhizomes in a plastic bag until planting. Hops prefer full sun and light-textured rich well-drained soil, with a pH of 6.5-8.0. As soon as soil can be worked in spring, till to create a weed-free area. Dig holes about 1' deep and at least 3' apart in rows. Add manure, compost and other slow-release organic fertilizers. Plant 2 rhizomes per hole, horizontally with the buds pointed up and cover with 1-2" of loose soil. The first year the hop plant requires frequent light watering and mulching.

Hops grow vertically, with lateral sidearms extending from the main vine and producing cones. Vines may grow up to 25' in a single season, and do best if they are trained onto strong twine 12-30' high, supported by a trellis, wire, pole, tree branch or south-facing building. When the young vines are about 1' long, select the 2 or 3 most vigorous vines per hill and remove the rest. Gently wrap the vines clockwise onto a string. Once trained, the vine will guide itself.

Pick the hops when they are papery but still slightly sticky and filled with yellow powder. Harvest dates will vary with the variety and climate. Because most hops are produced out of reach from the ground, it is safest to lower the vines in order to pick the hops. Dry hops thoroughly before use. Placed on a window screen in a dry attic, they will dry in a few weeks. Dried hops freeze well.

Cut the vines back to the ground after they have been killed by frost. Each spring apply a hearty topdressing of manure and compost. To help control vigor, prune roots by cutting a 2-3' circle with a shovel around the base of the plant in spring.



Prunus japonica x P. jacquemontii

Joel Bush Cherry 4x4' Elwyn

Meader introduction, NH. The best of Meader's three bush cherries. Bears 3 or 4 quarts of freestone fruit per plant.

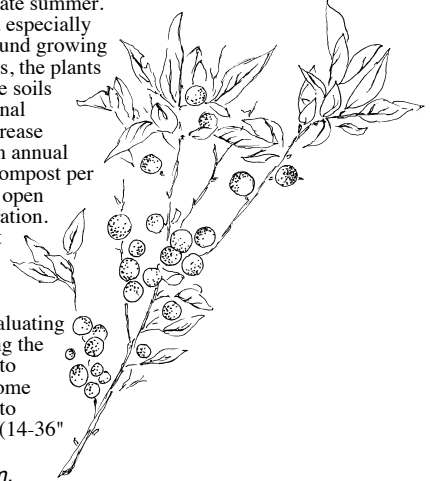
Similar to Montmorency cherries, excellent for pies and jams. Because it ripens in September, the birds leave them alone, so there is no need to net the shrubs. Pink blossoms in spring are highly ornamental. Prefers well-drained fertile soil and full sun. Self-pollinating.

Will be in short supply again this year; order early! Z3. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

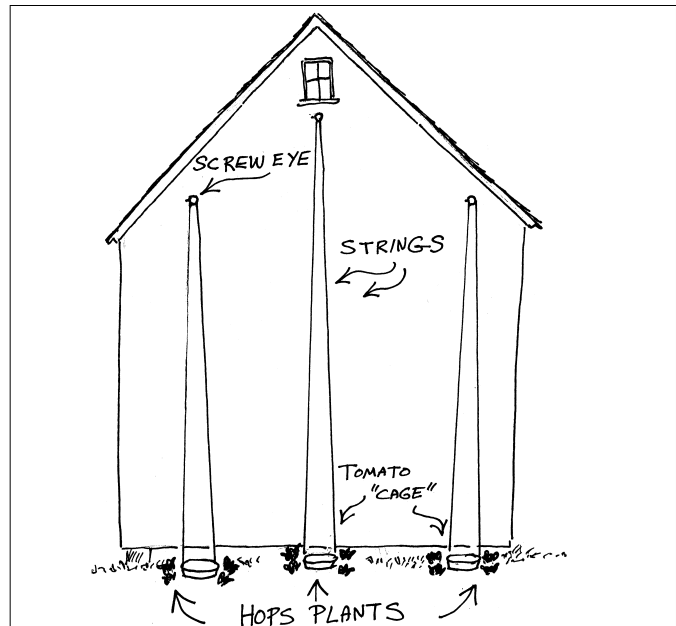
3076 Joel Bush Cherry, \$15.00

P. maritima Beach Plum 6' x 5-6' Late summer. Rounded dense suckering shrub found along ocean beaches, New Brunswick to Carolinas. Purplish-red 1/2-1" fruit in late summer.

Excellent jams, sauces, and especially jelly. Although typically found growing naturally in poor sandy soils, the plants thrive in well-drained fertile soils with a pH of 6-6.5. Additional fertilization will further increase productivity. We suggest an annual 5-gallon bucket or two of compost per plant. Prune to maintain an open center for good light penetration. Plant about 5' apart, at least 2 for pollination. For the past ten years, Cornell University has been testing growing techniques and evaluating thousands of seedlings along the Northeast coast. We'd like to offer named selections at some point. Salt tolerant! Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (14-36" transplants)



3082 Beach Plum, \$11.00



The Hops Trellis

Locate your hop bed near your barn, garage, skyscraper or other tall building. Dig a hole about 3' deep in the growing bed for every 4-6 plants. Obtain tomato cages at a garden center. Set the cage into the hole so that only the uppermost hoop is above ground. Backfill with soil so the cage is securely in the ground. Tie 2 long rugged strings to the hoop. Then, tie them to a ring, timber, or window sill high above the ground—30 feet if you can do it. Plant 2-3 hops plants on either side of the hoop and train them to grow up the string. By the second year, you should have hops growing to the top. Detach string and lower the vines to the ground when ready to harvest.

Design courtesy of Brad Hunter.

P. tomentosa Nanking Cherry 6-10' x same. Broad dense highly ornamental shrub, becoming open and attractively irregular. Pink buds open to masses of fragrant white $\frac{3}{4}$ " flowers. Deeply veined light green foliage with very fine fuzz (tomentosa) lining each vein underneath. Very tasty tart scarlet $\frac{1}{2}$ " fruit for pies and jams. Two or three berries will provide your Vitamin C for the day. Excellent hedge plant; prefers full sun in well-drained soil. This is an edible landscape crop that produces a lot of fruit that actually is edible! Covering plants with netting will deter birds from robbing your crop. Plant two or more for pollination. Native to China and Japan. Z2. ME Grown. (20-36" transplants)

3100 Nanking Cherry, \$11.00



Sambucus canadensis Elderberry, Sweet or Black-Berried Elder 6-12' x same. Broad vigorous multi-stemmed shrub with spreading branches and unkempt habit. The large flat creamy-white flower clusters (cymes) that cover the shrub in early summer make delicious fritters. Dry them for a wintertime cold and flu remedy tea. Purple-black berries in late summer used in jelly or pie are famous for wine and attract many species of birds, beneficial insects, and other wildlife. Descriptions of the old standard varieties have always been sketchy at best. Now we have a large collection on trial. We are in the process of sorting out the good, the bad, and the ugly. Trials are also being conducted nearby under the direction of the University of Maine and others. Best grown in moist rich soil. Free from diseases and insects. Two varieties needed for pollination. Native to eastern U.S. Z3.

S. c. Adams No. 1 Selected by William Adams, Union Springs, NY, 1926. Vigorous strong productive bushes. Large berries and fruit clusters. ME Grown. (1-yr well-rooted plants)

3163 Adams Elderberry, \$14.50

S. c. Goodbarn Chance seedling. Elwyn Meader introduction, Rochester, NH. Professor Meader named this 'Goodbarn' because it was the good elderberry growing under the eaves of his barn in New Hampshire. Another of the many fine plants that Elwyn's son John has brought to my attention over the years. Thanks, John! Goodbarn is thought to be a polyploid form of *S. c.* with unusual hardiness, vigor and apparent self-fertility. It blooms heavily and produces large crops annually. What it lacks in commercial fruit size it makes up for with its impressive productivity. ME Grown. (12-18" transplants)

3171 Goodbarn Elderberry, \$14.50

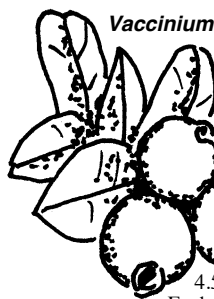
S. c. Johns Unknown parentage, Nova Scotia Exp Sta, 1959. Very vigorous, up to 10' tall. One particular cutting in Jen's nursery grew five feet tall in one summer and had berries and flowers at the same time late into the summer! Said to be slightly less productive than Adams, but berries and clusters are larger; foliage darker. ME Grown. (1-yr well-rooted plants)

3179 Johns Elderberry, \$14.50

S. c. Wild Seedling Fedco Staff member and grower Jen Ries has become our unofficial elderberry guru. She's been growing every variety she can find. If you have any varieties to share, let her know! These are seedlings she's been growing out at her Wiffletree Nursery in Brooks. Each one will be unique. Plant two or more for fruit production or use them as pollinators for any of our named varieties. ME Grown. (1-yr well-rooted plants)

3195 Wild Elderberry, \$14.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop



Vaccinium vitis-idaea 'Regal' Lingonberry 7-8" x 36"

University of Wisconsin-Madison introduction, 1994. Vigorous shallow-rooted spreading groundcover related to blueberries and cranberries. Small ($\frac{1}{2}$ ") bright glossy red nutritious fruit with a richer less astringent flavor than cranberries.

Can be eaten fresh but primarily used in sauces, jams, syrups, juices and wines. Small shiny dark green foliage. Extremely popular in Scandinavia and now catching on in the U.S. 'Regal' is noted for its good flavor.

Prefers full sun and poor sandy acid (pH 4.5-5) soils. If you've got good blueberries, try these.

Each mature plant will produce a bit over 2 pounds. Ripens in late summer but is best after a frost. Harvest by hand or with a blueberry rake. Stores up to 2 months in the fridge. Plant 12-18" apart in rows 3-4' apart. Incredibly tough and very hardy. Self-pollinating. Native to the colder northern hemisphere. Z3. ME Grown. (small 1 year transplants)

3238 Regal Lingonberry, \$10.00

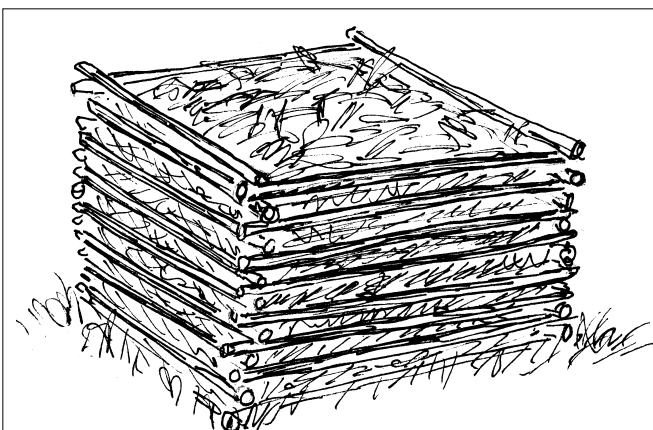
Viburnum trilobum 'Wentworth' Highbush Cranberry 8-12' Also known as **Crampbark**. Multistemmed shrub, good for screens and hedges, has clusters of white flowers in May.

Pendulous bunches of brilliant red-orange berries hang from September to February and are still edible off the bush in midwinter.

Berries can be used for jams and preserves and are popular with dozens of bird species, especially waxwings. Flowers help attract and support beneficial insects. Bark used as an anti-spasmodic; tea especially good for relieving menstrual cramping.

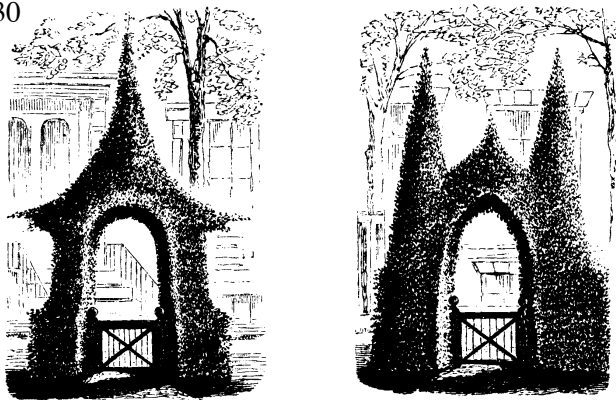
Wentworth was selected for edibility and large fruit size in the early 1900s from a collection of 3000 viburnums. It also features bright lime-green leaves and red fall foliage. Tolerates dry soils if high in organic matter, but prefers rich moist well-drained soils, sun or shade. Soil pH 6-7. Pollution tolerant. Susceptible to viburnum leaf beetle; check with your local extension office or nursery to determine if this could be a problem. Not a bog cranberry (see #2890). Native from Canada to NY. Self-pollinating. Z2. (6-18" transplants)

3245 Wentworth Highbush Cranberry, \$10.00



The Compost Heap

Volumes have been written about compost and compost heaps. I'll spare you. But I will tell you how we make ours. We fabricate our heaps from 6-foot poles laid up log cabin style. As the pile goes up, add poles. No need to fasten the poles together. We use spruce and fir saplings from the woods. We always have about a dozen heaps going at one stage or another. If you need more on compost in general, try *The Complete Book of Composting* by J.I. Rodale, all 1007 pages!



Conifers transplanted once in the nursery have a much higher success rate. These conifers are mostly three- to four-year-old transplants. 2-2TR means the plant is 4 years old: 2 years as a seedling and 2 years as a transplant. P+2 means one year as a plug and 2 years as a transplant.

Abies balsamea Balsam Fir 45-75' Often considered the "only real Christmas tree." Fragrant needles are a favorite for wreaths, pillows and potpourri. Small blisters (which are fun to "pop" at other people) on younger trees contain a transparent aromatic resin that native peoples used as an inhalant for headaches and congestion, and as a poultice for burns, cuts and arthritis. Narrow, conical, smooth-barked. Prefers well-drained moist acid soils. Avoid polluted areas. Semi-shade tolerant, slow-growing. Good specimen tree and songbird nesting area, and a favorite browse of moose and deer. The most abundant conifer in Maine, "country of the pointed firs." Native Labrador to PA. Z3. **ME Grown.** (3-2TR 6-12")

3270 Balsam Fir, bundle of 5, \$14.00

Chamaecyparis thyoides Atlantic White Cedar "Maine Strain" 40-50' x 10-20' Also called **False Cypress**. Tall slender columnar native with sprays of fine needle-like foliage can reach up to 85' tall. Light grey to reddish-brown bark often spirals around the trunk. Tends to lose its lower branches with age. Round 3" cones. Lightweight soft close-grained slightly fragrant wood for fence posts, boat building and shingles. Recommended as a specimen or grouping for low wet boggy spots. Prefers moist sandy soils and full sun. Typically found growing in large stands in freshwater swamps, bogs and stream banks. Will not compete with hardwoods. Native Maine to Florida. Z3. **ME Grown.** (6-12" transplants)

3282 White Cedar, Maine Strain, \$8.00

Metasequoia glyptostroboides Dawn Redwood 100' One of the most spectacular of all the ornamental trees. The wide irregular trunk looks like something out of a fairy tale with its iridescent golden-orange bark that becomes deeply grooved, hollowed and fluted with age. The bright green deciduous needles turn orange in the fall. Grows quickly, up to 50' in 15-20 years, with many small-diameter horizontal branches and a uniform conical habit. Highly adaptable, easy to transplant. Prefers moist deep well-drained slightly acid soil in full sun. Will tolerate wet or dry sites. Pollution resistant; good specimen or street tree, rarely needs pruning. Fossils dating back 50 million years have been found in Japan. Thought to be extinct until it was rediscovered in central China in 1941. Resembles California redwoods only vaguely. Native of China and Japan. Z4. **ME Grown.** (3-4' transplants)

3350 Dawn Redwood, \$16.00

Conifers tolerate a wide range of soil conditions, but prefer a pH between 5.5-6.5. If you are planting in dry or well-drained areas, dip tree roots in Agri-gel solution before planting to protect roots from drying out. Do not use Agri-gel in heavy clay soils or wet areas. Do not soak conifers overnight; a good dipping is sufficient.

Before planting, prune off 1/3 of the roots. Dig a small hole or make an incision with a spade or planting bar and slip the tree in to the level it grew in the nursery. Fan the roots out; do not wind them around in the hole. It is much better to prune the roots than to crowd them in the hole. Water well and pack the earth down with your feet to remove air pockets. Young conifers need 3/4-1" of rain per week. Periodic deep waterings are far more beneficial than frequent sprinklings. No fertilization is necessary in the first year. In later years you may fertilize around the drip line.

To make evergreens dense and compact, remove leader and center bud on the end of each side branch.

Agri-gel A hydrogel formulation which absorbs and holds water. The swollen crystals adhere to plant roots, reducing transplant shock. Safe, non-toxic, easy to use. Useful for garden seedlings as well as woody plants. Highly recommended for raspberries and conifers. Half-ounce packet mixed with one to three gallons of water will treat up to 100 cane plants, or 50 trees and shrubs. 1/2 oz.

7510 Agri-gel, \$2.50

Picea abies Norway Spruce 80' Fast-growing wide-spreading upright picturesque tree with graceful long pendulous branches that often reach the ground. Largest of the spruce. If you go to the Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA, don't miss the ancient Norway Spruce just inside the front gate. Several of its massive drooping branches have themselves turned into secondary trunks. It is truly amazing. Orange-brown scaly bark. Excellent lumber. Showy (marketable!) 4-6" cones. Bright green foliage. Prefers loam but does better than other spruces on poorer soils. Native to northern Europe. Z2. **ME Grown.** (2-2TR 12-24")

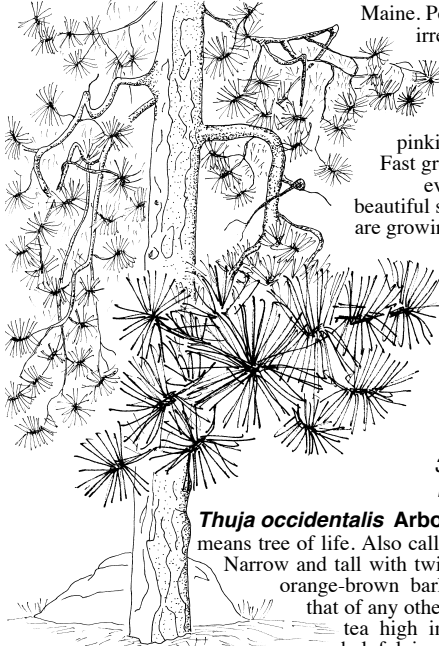
3400 Norway Spruce, bundle of 5, \$14.00

P. pungens glauca 'Majestic'
Colorado Blue Spruce 30-60'

Very popular specimen tree with truer blue foliage than other cultivars. Can be used as a screen, as it is fast growing after 3'. Does not like wet soil. Extra spring nitrogen will improve blue color, which doesn't appear for first few years. Native to western U.S. Z2. **ME Grown.** (2-2TR 9-18")

3420 Colorado Blue Spruce, bundle of 5, \$14.00

Pinus resinosa Red Pine 50-80' Also known as **Norway Pine**, probably because the first specimens taken to England and planted in Kew Gardens were from Norway, Maine. Others speculate that Europeans first encountered this native tree in what became Norway, Maine. Perhaps both are true. Broad



irregular or rounded crown of spreading branches. Long soft 3-8" needles. 1 1/2-2 1/2" egg-shaped cones. Distinctive pinkish-silver scaly plated bark. Fast growing; thrives in poor soil, even sand. Some of the most beautiful specimens in central Maine are growing in a mixture of sand and gravel with apparently no organic matter at all. Relatively disease-free. Nearly became extinct during the last ice age, but making a comeback. You can help! Native to northeastern U.S. and Canada. Z3. **ME Grown.** (P+1 6-12")

3530 Red Pine, bundle of 5, \$14.00

Thuja occidentalis Arborvitae 20-60' Arborvitae means tree of life. Also called **Eastern White Cedar**.

Narrow and tall with twiggy branches, soft fibrous orange-brown bark, and flat foliage unlike that of any other conifer. Foliage and bark tea high in vitamin C. Foliage tea helpful in infections, twig decoction

makes an anti-viral anti-fungal skin wash. Valuable light fragrant wood, the standard for fence posts and log cabins in Maine. Slow growing, lives up to 400 years. Thrives in rich moist marshy neutral-to-alkaline soils. Good for screens and hedges. Probably the first North American tree brought to Europe. Next time you're on Mount Desert, check out Thuja Gardens: beautiful cedars surrounding even more beautiful flower gardens. While you're there, visit Asticou Azalea Gardens, just down the road. Z2. **ME Grown.** (P+2 12-24")

3590 Arborvitae, bundle of 5, \$14.00



Fedco Trees 2009

PO Box 520 Waterville ME 04903

fax 207-692-1022



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Delivery Options ☒ choose one:

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- ☐ **Pickup** at Tree Sale in Clinton. Pay no shipping.
- ☐ **Ship** around May 6. (Add \$15 fee to shipping charges.)

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Final order deadline March 13, 2009

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☐ up to \$5.00

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We accept Visa or MasterCard

Exp. Date

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• Complete ordering information on page 3.

- Please fill out the address information and totals blocks above. We *must* have a road name for UPS delivery.
- For early delivery of rootstock or for scionwood, send a SASE for the order form or download it from our website.
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- We will add a \$10 handling fee if you ask us to make adjustments after we have received your order.
- We ship between April 8 and April 20; we will add a \$15 handling fee if you specify a shipping date within this period or if you specify shipment around May 6.
- Consider donating your refund to the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association (MOFGA) Permanent Site Fund.

Fedco Trees 2009: Trees, Shrubs & Plants

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If you are ordering more than 28 items, you may copy this page or
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- Consider donating your refund to the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association (MOFGA) Permanent Site Fund.

Fedco Trees 2009: Trees, Shrubs & Plants

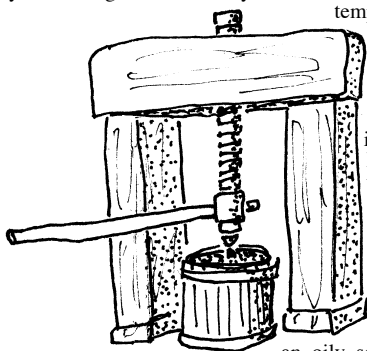
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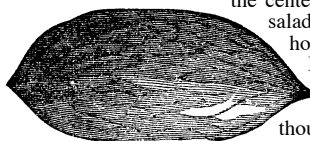
Nut Trees When we toured farms in Italy a couple of years ago, we travelled along the olive's northern range. If winter temperatures dip to 21° you won't get olives next year and the trees will die to ground well before temperatures hit zero. I was curious about what northern Italians (and the French) would have traditionally used for oil. In times when people didn't travel much, I assumed it wasn't olives. I suspected it might be walnuts, and it turns out I was correct. Considerably harder than olives, walnuts make really good oil. Cholesterol-lowering and high in potassium, zinc, copper and magnesium. The nuts and the oil played a key role in European life for thousands of years. Although American chestnuts have wonderful qualities, they are not an oily seed and therefore not a good oil source. Hazelnuts and their various hybrids, on the other hand, are very rich in oil, up to 60%, and can yield over 1,000 lbs per acre. We plan to increase our nut offerings during the coming years. Maybe it's time to create a New England oil industry, and not the kind that goes in your car.



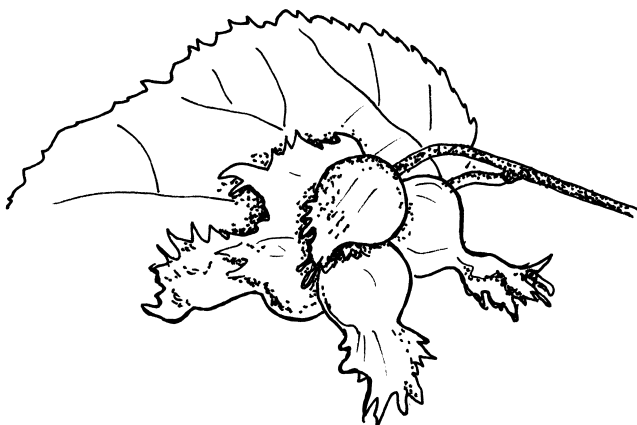
At least two trees of each species are required for pollination.

***Castanea dentata* American Chestnut** We are building up supplies to meet the huge demand; not available in 2009. Back in 2010.

***Carya illinoensis* Northern Pecan** 70'x70' Driving across the southern states some years ago I stayed with friends in Austin for the night. There in the center of the dining table was an enormous salad bowl filled to the brim with pecans my hosts had collected along the roadside like Maine apples in October. Pecans love Texas. Native stands can also be found as far north as Illinois. Although they may be plenty hardy in much of the north, they do require summer heat and a warm fall to fill the nuts. Very large tree likes lots of room and clay or sandy soils rich with organic matter. Will take 3-4 years to establish a taproot. Then the trees should grow rapidly. Taproots do not like ledge! Z4. ME Grown. (12-18" transplants)



3716 Northern Pecan, \$12.00



***Corylus* spp. Filberts** Suckering multistemmed rounded shrub or small tree with showy catkins in spring and edible nuts. One of six genera in the birch family, there are nine recognized *Corylus* species and many crosses. None are self pollinating: at least two seedlings or clones must be planted for pollination. All three of our offerings are seedlings. Plant 2-8' apart to create a hedge and ensure good pollination. Squirrels and blue jays will begin stealing the nuts as soon as they're ripe, so pay attention and collect the crop as soon as the husks begin to turn brown and lose their sticky yellowness. Cure nuts in their husks for a couple of weeks and then shell them. You can even stomp off the dry shells in a big tub as if you were juicing grapes. Prefers well-drained soils, with pH 5.0-7.0. Full sun or light shade. Annually cutting out some suckers will keep your stand from becoming too shrubby. Responds positively to an annual compost application.

***C. cornuta* x *C. avellana* Filazel** 25'x20' Gellatly cross combining hardiness of Beaked Hazelnut with the large nut size and productivity of the European Filbert. One of the hardiest and earliest of the filberts. May grow to be quite large. Fast growing, with mature trees often reaching 25'. Makes an excellent hedge. Bears good quality large nuts, although you may have to battle the squirrels and weevils. Seeds from blight-free source in Michigan. Adapted to a wide range of soils. Z4. ME Grown. (18-36" transplants)

3780 Filazel, \$12.00

***C. americana* American Hazelnut or American Filbert** 15-18' x 10-15' Very good 1/2" nuts. Somewhat smaller but harder than the various foreign hybrids: hazelberts and filazels. Not our local wild beaked filbert, which is smaller and prickly to handle. Ripens around the third week of September in central Maine. Dark green serrated foliage. Highly resistant or immune to filbert blight. Native to eastern North America. Plant 8' apart. Z4. ME Grown. (20-36" transplants)

3785 American Hazelnut, \$12.00

***C. x hybrid* Precocious Hazelbert** 12x12' This hybrid hazelbert (or hazelnut) was developed by Oikos Tree Crops in Michigan from selected filazels and hazelberts. It includes both American and European parentage. Fedco grower Anne Hallee received Precocious nuts from Oikos and has been growing them out. Vigorous shrubby suckering plant takes 3-4 years to bear. Medium-sized nut. Plant at least two for pollination. Good resistance to filbert blight. Z4. ME Grown. (24-36" transplants)

3799 Hazelbert Precocious, \$12.00



***Juglans nigra* Black Walnut** 70-90' Magnificent open rounded crown of massive limbs with dark green leaves. Highly valued cabinet and veneer wood. Thick-shelled edible nuts have an intense distinctive flavor. Their husks yield a rich brown dye. Husks, leaves and roots all have anti-fungal properties. Deep taproot. Prefers moist well-drained soils, pH 6-7. Roots give off a compound, juglone, which inhibits competing plants, so don't plant one too close to your garden. Native to eastern U.S. though not quite into Maine. Space trees about 50' apart for nut production, 20' apart for lumber. Z4. ME Grown. (24-36" transplants)

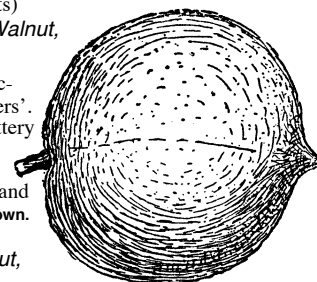
3815 Black Walnut, \$13.00

***J. n.* 'Elmer Myers'** Ohio selection. Tall straight habit with high nut production. Pearly white sweet mild flesh with barely any bitter aftertaste. Thinner shell than 'Emma K' but a bit trickier to crack because of its four pronounced deep lobes. These are seedling trees and will vary in form and fruit. Z4. ME Grown. (16-36" transplants)

3820 Elmer Myers Black Walnut, \$13.00

***J. n.* 'Emma K'** Central Illinois selection. Maybe a seedling of 'Elmer Myers'. Sweet almost hazelnut flavor with buttery texture. Smooth football-shaped nuts have comparatively thin shells. Productive tree. These are seedling trees and will vary in form and fruit. Z4. ME Grown. (16-36" transplants)

3831 Emma K Black Walnut, \$13.00



ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Shade Trees City street, country road, front yard, backyard, side yard: everyone benefits from planting shade trees. Not only do they lower ground-level temperatures in summer, buffer winter cold, provide valuable wildlife habitat, and store tremendous amounts of water, they also play a key role in combatting global warming. 50% of a tree's weight is stored carbon. In a big tree, that adds up.

Each year we offer some of our favorite shade trees. Other larger trees throughout the catalog that will provide shade include all the apples (pages 8-15), all the conifers (p. 30), some of the nuts (p. 31), several crabapples (pp. 35-36), and the Japanese tree lilac (p. 34).

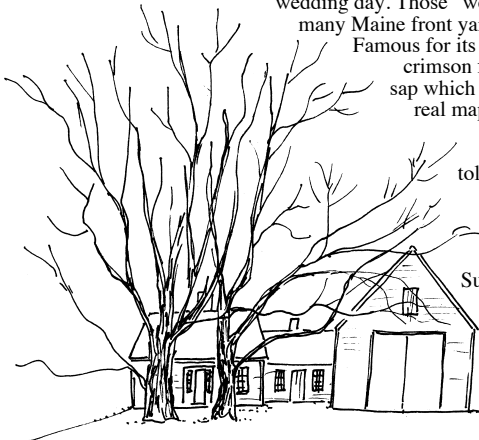
Acer rubrum Red Maple 50-60' Also known as **Swamp Maple**. Usually has a central leader and an upright growth habit, compared to the bushier sugar maple. In early spring the dark red flowers cover the driveway long before any leaves appear. In the fall the foliage turns electric orange, yellow, and brilliant red. The astounding combinations of colors surround me as I head off in my truck to go apple exploring every October. Excellent in the yard. Does not have the weak branching problems of silver maple. Sometimes tapped for sap in spring. Transplants easily. Prefers moist acid conditions but is adaptable to dry locations. Note that this is *not* the red-leaf maple *A. platanoides* 'Crimson King'. Native to eastern North America. Z3. **ME Grown.** (3-4' transplants)

3985 Red Maple, \$16.00

A. saccharum Sugar Maple 50-100' Largest of our native maples, also known as **Rock Maple**, valued for shade, syrup, and lumber. Traditionally a pair of sugar maples was planted in front of a farmhouse on the inhabitants' wedding day. Those "wedding trees" still grace many Maine front yards after all these years.

Famous for its yellow gold scarlet and crimson fall foliage and its fresh sap which is boiled down to make real maple syrup. Huge upright spreading form with light grey bark. Shade tolerant, making it easy to interplant in existing woods. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. Cold hardy. Susceptible to salt and air pollution; not a good city tree. Native Quebec to Gulf Coast. Z3. (2-2 TR 3-4')

3990 Sugar Maple, \$16.00

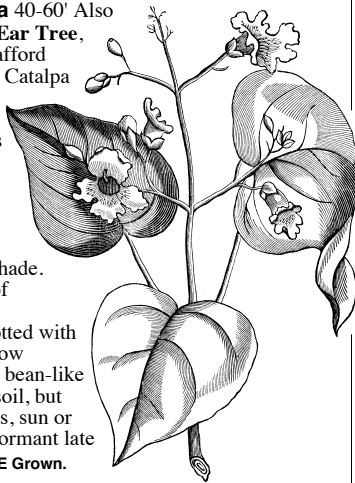


Betula papyrifera Paper Birch, Canoe Birch or White Birch Clump 30-70' x 30' Medium-sized tree with an irregular oval shape, upright angled branches and magnificent chalk-white peeling bark. Deep green foliage produces light shade in summer and turns clear yellow in fall. Birds prize the catkins, buds and seeds. Twigs are a favorite deer browse. Bark traditionally used for canoes, containers and roofing. I've even seen it used as an amazing wallpaper. Wood quite valuable at the sawmill. Sap makes an excellent "maple" syrup. Branches, stuck into the ground, make great pea fencing. Prefers moist well-drained acid soil though ours thrive on ledge. At its best in Zone 4 or colder, but grows well as far south as Pennsylvania, about Zone 6. Native to northern North America. Each clump will include three trunks. **ME Grown.** (clump of 3 1/4'-4')

4017 Paper Birch Clump, \$22.00

Catalpa speciosa Northern Catalpa 40-60' Also known as **Western Catalpa, Elephant Ear Tree, Catawba and Cigar Tree**. If you can't afford orchids for that special someone, plant a Catalpa and you'll be swimming in orchid-like flowers early every summer. With its form, foliage and flowers, this tree looks great on the street and in the yard. Fast-growing coarse habit with a somewhat narrow open irregular crown and thick interesting undulant branches. Dense foliage of huge "elephant ear" heart-shaped leaves provides excellent shade. Covered in early summer with clusters of orchid-like ruffled incredibly fragrant jasmine-scented white blossoms each dotted with purple and spotted with rich buttery yellow radiating from the throat. Fruits are long bean-like "cigar" pods. Prefers deep moist fertile soil, but thrives in almost any conditions and soils, sun or partial shade. Grows rapidly. Remains dormant late into spring. Native to central U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (3-5' transplants)

4030 Northern Catalpa, \$13.00



Cercidiphyllum japonicum Katsuratree 40-60' x 20-30' A spectacular specimen tree. Multi-trunked with a pyramidal to wide spreading form. The beautiful drooping heart-shaped foliage emerges a glowing reddish-purple becoming bluish-green during the summer and turning a delightful apricot-yellow in fall. The leaves resemble redbud, hence the botanical name. Shaggy bark. Not well known but one of the most popular of all trees with anyone who's ever seen it. Michael Dirr wrote that if he had to pick one favorite tree, it would be the Katsuratree. He calls it "overwhelming in overall attractiveness." Rich moist well-drained soil is recommended. May be difficult to transplant, although Fedco customers have reported no problems when we've offered it in the past. Supplemental watering during the first couple of years may help the young tree to become established. After that, it'll be fast growing. Native to eastern Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

4046 Katsuratree, \$16.00

Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea' Purple Beech 50-60' x 40-60' Also called **Copper Beech**. Discovered in the Hanleiter Forest near Sondershausen, Germany, before 1772. Purple-leaved form of the European Beech. A massive and incredibly magnificent tree that is widely planted in central and southern New England though not so common up this way. There are some absolutely breathtaking specimens in the Boston area. The coloring is awesome: deep purples, maroons, reds, and orange depending on the position of the sun. The rounded form reminds me of a gigantic gum drop or maybe a lady's old-fashioned hoop skirt. A thickly foliated curtain of branches hangs to the ground, forming a huge inner sanctuary. Looking up from inside the canopy, the undersides of the leaves are luminescent emerald green. It's unbelievable! Slow to medium-fast growing. Beautiful thick smooth grey bark—the kind that makes you want to start carving hearts. Prefers moist well-drained acid soil. Native to Europe. Hardy in the warmer areas of Zone 4. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

4065 Purple Beech, \$16.00



Fraxinus nigra Brown or Black Ash 30-50' x 15-25' Called Black Ash elsewhere, always known as Brown Ash in Maine. Tall slender tree with a short narrow crown prefers rich moist ground. Thrives along the banks of small streams, sometimes even down in the streams themselves. The summer-ripening clusters of single-seeded samaras are important food for game birds, song birds and small animals. The twigs and branches attract deer and moose. The bark is corky, spongy, chalky, and rubs off in your hands. The wood is preferred by basketmakers because it easily splits into strips. Once commonly used for barrel hoops, it also makes a rich brown cabinet wood. Seems to be disappearing, although once common in the Northeast. There are still quite a few here in central Maine. Partial shade, pH adaptable. Native to eastern U.S. and Canada. Z2. **ME Grown.** (5-6' transplants)

4080 Brown Ash, \$11.00

Ginkgo biloba Ginkgo 50-80' Also called **Maidenhair Tree**. Considered the oldest living genus of seed plants; grew in North America in the time of the dinosaurs. Upright when young with branches that spike out and up like the rays of the sun, eventually becoming wide-spreading and graceful. Slow-growing, can be extremely long-lived. Unique fine-cut fan-shaped foliage turns sparkling golden-yellow in fall, then all at once the leaves drop and within hours the tree is bare. Edible seeds, produced on female trees after 20-50 years, highly prized in Asia. Leaf tea used to enhance circulation to the brain and extremities. Tolerates smoke, dust, wind, ice, insects, disease, salt. Prefers moist sandy neutral soils but is very adaptable. Minimal maintenance requirements, nearly indestructible, an excellent city tree. There are 3000-year-old specimens in China. Male and female tree required for fruit. These are unsexed seedlings. Native to southeastern China. Z3. **ME Grown.** (16-24" transplants)

4090 Ginkgo, \$12.00

Gymnocladus dioica Kentucky Coffeetree 50x50' Upright open-spreading specimen tree ideal for lawns or other spots that beg for a light yet equal distribution of shade. Grass will grow right up to the trunk, making it ideal for the yard. Stout branches and deeply furrowed bark. Beautiful winter profile. Leafs out very late in spring. Blue-green bipinnately compound foliage hangs in perfect layers creating a beautiful visual patterned effect. 12-18" fragrant greenish-white flower panicles on the female trees, 3" panicles on the male. Attractive to bees. 3-8" seed pods on females. Early European settlers roasted, ground and boiled the seeds to produce a coffee substitute. (Are you listening, MOFGA?) Grows fast when young, slowing as the tree matures. Prefers deep moist soils but is adaptable to many conditions including alkaline soils, salt, cities, streets and drought. Disease free. Requires full sun. These are unsexed seedlings. Plant at least a pair if you're intent on kicking coffee. Native to the eastern U.S. Z3/4. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

4097 Kentucky Coffeetree, \$12.00

***Liriodendron tulipifera* Tuliptree or Tulip Poplar** 70-90' x 50-100'

This is a highly ornamental shade tree that will adapt to the space you give it. I've seen rather narrow specimens, no more than 25' or 30' wide and others with undulating horizontal branching and a spread of nearly 100'. In either case, it will grow tall. Decorated with very showy tulip-like flowers in late spring. Each 6-petaled light-yellow flower is ornamented with a bright orange band that extends from petal to petal, visible inside and out. Deeply grooved richly colored bark. Very attractive flat soft-green rounded foliage vaguely reminiscent of maple. Golden yellow fall color. Should be hardy in much of Maine but will reach it's full potential in southern New England. Prefers full sun and deep moist well-drained slightly acid loam. Native to eastern U.S. Z5 or maybe Z4. **ME Grown.** (3 1/2'-5')

4114 Tuliptree, \$12.00

***Prunus maackii* Amur Chokecherry** 20-40' x same.

Extremely hardy medium-sized spreading rounded tree with year-round interest. White flowers in 2-3" long racemes in mid-spring. Spectacular dazzling bark makes the whole tree sparkle, varying in color from golden brown to dark red with glistening metallic flakes that exfoliate like birch when the tree is young. The color reminds me of an enormous golden Chinese buddha. Rich deep olive-green ovate foliage Red-black 1/4" berries in midsummer, relished by birds and also suitable for jelly, juice and wine. Prefers well-drained soil. Native to the Amur region of eastern Russia. Z2. **ME Grown.** (24-36" transplants)

4135 Amur Chokecherry, \$12.00

***Quercus bicolor* Swamp White Oak or Bicolor Oak** 50-60' x same. A massive rounded shade tree with a short deeply ridged trunk and a fan of branches, the uppermost ascending and the lower drooping. The contrast between the light grey bark and the dark trunk fissures is particularly striking. Called Swamp White in recognition of its affinity for the wild low wetlands that once peppered eastern North America before the days of the parking lot and the big box. Called Bicolor because its large thick leathery lobed leaves have a glossy dark green upper surface and a white to greyish-green hairy felty underside. Its large 1 1/2" sweet acorns are highly attractive to wildlife, particularly water fowl, sapsuckers and (ugh) squirrels. Its yellow to reddish-purple fall foliage persists into spring. Prefers moist, acid soils where drainage is poor, but exhibits excellent drought resistance as well. Very fast growing once established. Native to northeastern U.S. Z3 (16-36" transplants)

4150 Swamp White Oak, \$12.00

***Q. palustris* Pin Oak** 60-90' x 70-100' Young trees have a distinctive pyramidal habit maturing to a spectacular large rounded form. Unique among oaks for its long spreading horizontal branches, the lower ones angling towards the ground. Though the name most likely comes from its branches being thickly covered with short pin-like twigs, it also has a perfectly upright straight pin-like trunk. The deeply incised shiny green leaves with pointed lobes are unmistakable. Leaves turn reddish to brown in the fall and acorns are a little smaller and rounder than those of the red oak. Although not native to Maine, it is fairly common around the state. Some of the best specimens can be found in Portland's parks, including of course, Deering Oaks. Lacks a taproot so transplants readily, preferring moist well-drained acid soils. Tolerates urban conditions. Native southern New England to Arkansas. Z4. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

4160 Pin Oak, \$12.00

***Q. rubra* Red Oak** 60-80' Also called **Northern Red Oak**. The most common oak in northern New England and a common tree in central Maine. Typically a single large trunk dividing into several large ascending spreading branches. While the branches are not as massive as some of the other oaks, its open rounded crown is magnificent. The trunk is a deep grey textured web of surfaces overlaid one upon another. Sharply toothed foliage turns orange-tan during apple season. The 1" acorns feed the native population and sprout with ease more or less wherever they land. Fast growing, up to two feet per year. Prefers well-drained sandy slightly acid soils. Those on my farm thrive in the shallow ledge ground. Tolerates shade, compacted soil, salt, pollution and other urban conditions. Eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-5')

4170 Red Oak, \$12.00

***Salix* spp. Cape Rosier Basket Willow** 50' more or less. If you're looking to make a basket, a bowl or maybe a boat this could be the only material you need. Beautiful subtly golden-colored basket willow propagated from the old Nearing Homestead on Cape Rosier, ME. Their trees are pollarded, a European pruning technique of severely cutting back the main branches to enhance the formation of long whips for basket-making. This enables easy annual spring harvesting and controls the size of the tree. In time, the trees develop a gnarly head which has great character. Stanley Joseph, homesteader on Cape Rosier and neighbor of the Nearings, used this willow for many years to make everything from baskets to the traditional Irish boat, the coracle. Many years ago, with Stanley's encouragement, I first planted basket willows on our farm in Palermo. Prefers sun and moist soils. Z4. **ME Grown.** (3-4')

4190 Cape Rosier Willow, \$17.00

***S. alba* 'Tristis' Niobe Weeping Willow** 50x50' The classic weeping willow, a very large majestic graceful wide-spreading tree. Golden drooping branches can hang to the ground. Branches used for basket weaving; golden bark and leaves used medicinally. Not to be confused with the Whomping Willow of Hogwarts—branches sway freely in the breeze but are unlikely to attack, though roots have been known to disrupt plumbing. Easily transplanted and fast growing. Prefers sun and moist soils. Native to southern Europe and western Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

4195 Niobe Weeping Willow, \$10.00

***S. matsudana* 'Snake' Willow** 30-50' A fast-growing wide oval tree with distinctively curled wiggled and twisted branches. The twigs look like sine waves—or maybe the stock market. Even the foliage loops and curls. 'Snake' is a selection of the standard contorted 'Tortuosa' willow with an even more wildly branching habit. Interesting outside in the yard and beautiful in a wreath or a vase. Quite nice as a young specimen. Keep it pruned and keep it small if you like. Drought tolerant though, like the other willows, it'll thrive in a moist location. Native to Argentina. Generally considered a Zone 5 plant though you might find it does well in some Zone 4 locations. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

4200 Snake Willow, \$10.00

***Tilia americana* American Linden** 60-80' Also known as **Basswood**. Tall stately tree with rounded crown and numerous low-hung spreading branches. Good for attracting bees no matter how remote the location. Sweetly fragrant yellow June flowers reputed to make the best honey, also a popular after-dinner tea and stomach remedy. I consider it the best soft carving wood. Inner bark, tough and fibrous, is used for ropes and nets. Young fruit and flowers can be ground into a paste as a chocolate substitute. Yellow fall color. Likes deep rich moist soils, but will grow in dry heavier soils. Full sun or partial shade. Sensitive to salt and pollution. Tolerates alkaline soil. Subject to Japanese beetles and other insect damage, though control measures are seldom needed. May live to 900 years. Native from New Brunswick to Virginia. Z3. (2-3' transplants)

4205 American Linden, \$12.00

***Ulmus americana* American Elm** 60-80' x 40-60' The most famous of all American shade trees. Long ago, someone had the brilliant idea to take this native of the American swampland and plant it in their front yard. Boy, did they start something! For generations, nearly every New England street and green was graced by lines of these towering majestic vase shaped trees. How many Elm Cities and Elm Streets are in New England? Lots. Even Waterville has a barren expanse of asphalt called Elm Plaza. The trees began to die by the thousands in 1930, primarily as victims of Dutch elm disease, whose rapid spread was aided by the monocropped lines of city trees. Now, all but a few are gone. Many groups have been attempting to reintroduce resistant selections; this year, we offer two of the most promising. Easy to transplant and grows rapidly once established. Prefers it moist but is soil- and pH-adaptable. Tolerant of pollution, drought and salt. Native to eastern North America.

***U. a.* 'Valley Forge'** 60-80' x 40-60' US

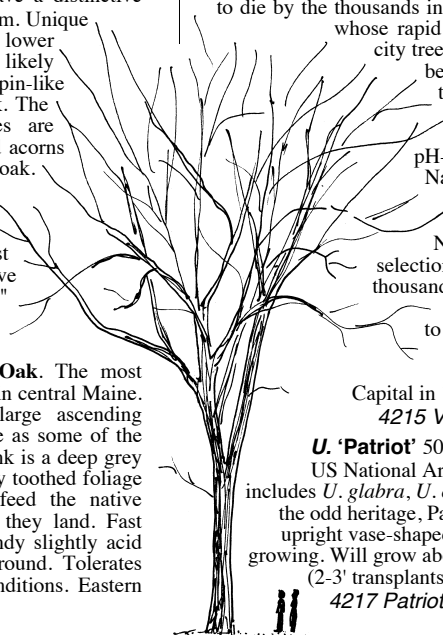
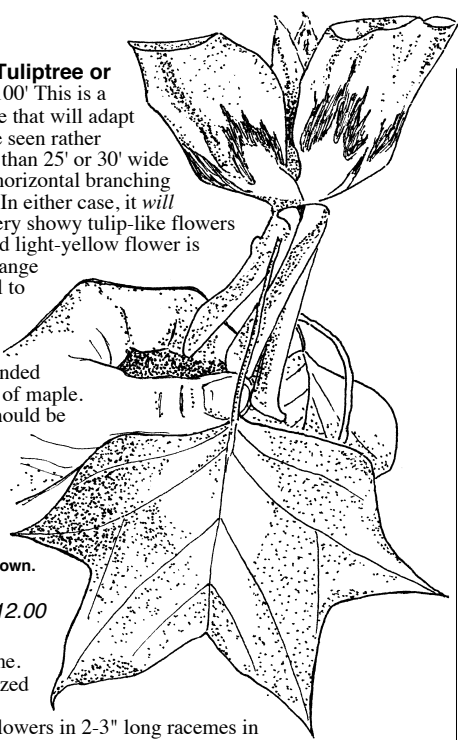
National Arboretum introduction, 1995. One of two selections made by AM Townsend and LR Schreiber from thousands of seedlings planted in Delaware, OH. Although not immune, Valley Forge was the most resistant to Dutch elm disease in their trials. ('New Harmony' was second.) Classic American elm—upright, arching, broadly vase-shaped. Planted on the U.S. Capital in 1996. Z5 or maybe Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

4215 Valley Forge Elm, \$16.00

***U.* 'Patriot'** 50' x 40' (*U. x 'Urban'*) x *U. wilsoniana* 'Prospector'

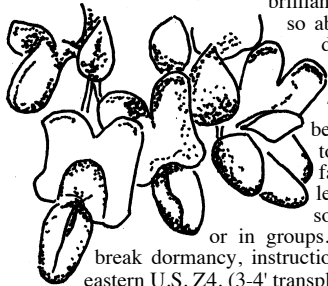
US National Arboretum intro. A complex hybrid whose parentage includes *U. glabra*, *U. carpinifolia*, *U. pumila* and *U. wilsoniana*. Despite the odd heritage, Patriot does have the classic American elm's narrow upright vase-shaped form. Highly resistant to Dutch elm disease. Fast growing. Will grow about 40 feet in 13 years. Z5 or maybe Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

4217 Patriot Elm, \$16.00



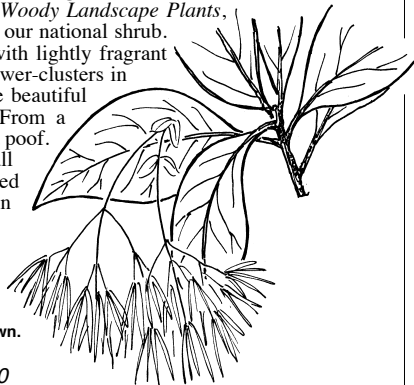
Ornamental Trees Although some of these smaller trees are large enough to provide shade and others provide excellent wildlife habitat, their chief attribute tends to be their beauty. Some have spectacular blooms while others have amazing foliage, fragrance, bark, branch structure or overall appearance. All deserve to be planted more often.

***Cercis canadensis* Redbud** 25-30' Small irregularly vase-shaped tree is one of the most wonderful ornamentals. In early spring, clusters of small brilliant purplish-pink pea-like flowers are so abundant they fill the entire tree; they dot the graceful branches and even come right out of the trunk. Truly an astonishing sight. Very large, up to 7", heart-shaped leaves emerge a beautiful opaque pink, gradually mature to deep green and turn bright yellow in fall. 2-3" flat leguminous pods. Excellent honey plant. Sun or partial shade, soil adaptable. Fine as a specimen tree or in groups. Needs sweating before planting to break dormancy, instructions on page 4. Native to central and eastern U.S. Z4. (3-4' transplants)



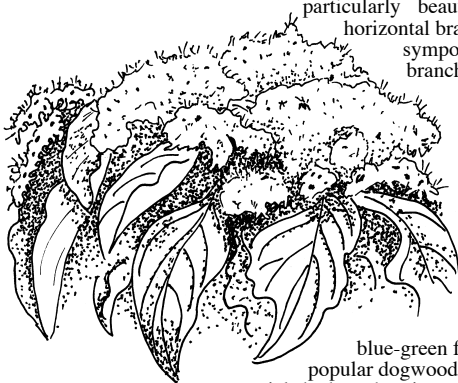
4240 Redbud, \$18.00

***Chionanthus virginicus* White Fringetree** 15-30' x 30' Michael Dirr, in his definitive *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, suggests that fringetree should be our national shrub. I agree. So completely covered with lightly fragrant clouds of feathery lacy white flower-clusters in spring that you can hardly see the beautiful glossy rich dark green foliage. From a distance, it looks like a tree with a poof. Large multistemmed shrub or small tree with an open spreading rounded form. Spectacular as a specimen, in groups, borders, near buildings. Small bluish-black fruit sought by birds. Adaptable, but prefers moist fertile acid soil. Tolerates air pollution; does well in cities. Native of eastern U.S. Z3. ME Grown. (2-3' transplants)



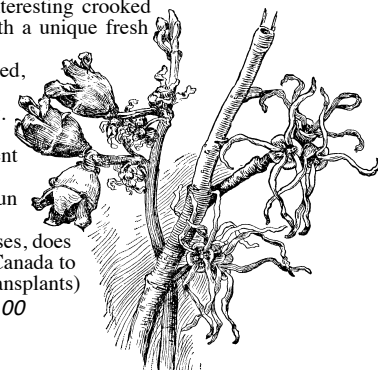
4245 Fringetree, \$16.00

***Cornus alternifolia* Pagoda Dogwood** 20' x 30-35' Also known as *Alternate-Leaved Dogwood*. Small tree or large multistemmed shrub, particularly beautiful for its tiers of horizontal branches and their distinct sympodial (consecutive "Y"s) branching habit right down to the smallest twigs. Extremely fragrant white 2-3" flower clusters in mid-late spring, followed by immature olive-green berries, each tipped with a tiny bright yellow style remnant. In midsummer clusters of dark blue berries ripen above the blue-green foliage. One of the most popular dogwoods with the birds. Prefers partial shade and moist well-drained acid soil, but tolerates full sun, poor soil and even clay. pH adaptable. Excellent naturalized as a specimen or in groups and often found growing with sugar maple, beech and basswood. Reddish-purple fall color. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. ME Grown. (12-18" transplants)



4255 Pagoda Dogwood, \$12.00

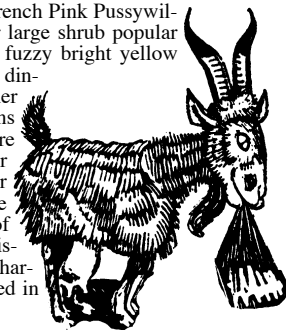
***Hamamelis virginiana* Witch Hazel** 20-30' A small tree or large shrub of irregular rounded form and interesting crooked branches. Yellow 1/2" flowers with a unique fresh fragrance appear in the fall. Oval wavy-edged foliage opens ruddy red, matures to a matte green and then climaxes a brilliant golden-yellow. Witch hazel extract, from leaves, young bark and roots, has astringent and antiseptic uses. Said to be the preferred wood of dowzers. Full sun or shade. Prefers moist acid soils; avoid dry spots. No pests or diseases, does well with very little care. Native Canada to Georgia. Z3. ME Grown. (12-18" transplants)



4332 Witch Hazel, \$13.00

Malus Crabapples 4512-4780 on pages 35-36.

***Salix caprea* Goat Willow** 20'x12' Also called **Great Sallow** or **French Pussywillow**. (Not to be confused with French Pink Pussywillow.) Fast-growing small rounded tree or large shrub popular with humans and bees for its decorative fuzzy bright yellow spring catkins. Lovely decoration for the dining table, complements cuttings of other willows in a vase. Dioecious. Male catkins are bright yellow while the females are longer, more silky and greenish. We offer males. Leaves are broader and rounder than other willows. The grey-green foliage turns yellow in fall. A favored browse of guess who? Prefers wet banks, dry disturbed areas and woodland edges. Plenty hardy. Native of the U.K. but long naturalized in much of Europe. Z3. ME Grown. (2-3')



4889 Goat Willow, \$15.00

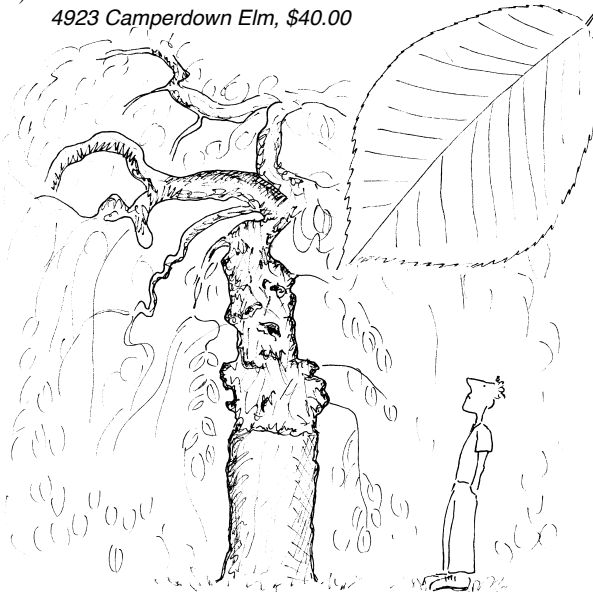
***Syringa reticulata* Japanese Tree Lilac** 20-30' x 15-25' Here in New England, 2008 was the year of the Japanese Tree Lilac. Our maybe I just had my eyes a little more open than usual in June. In any event, they were spectacular this year. Vibrant, bright, showy, white as an old-fashioned June wedding dress. Large lacy triangular creamy-white panicles—each made up of countless tiny 4-petaled flowers—perch above the canopy of dark green foliage. Their wonderful fragrance is reminiscent of almond extract. Always bloom several weeks after the shrub lilacs are through. Reddish brown cherry-like bark is grooved and checked. The tree itself has a rounded irregular habit. Beautiful as a specimen or in groups. Full sun to partial shade and well-drained soil, with a pH of 6.5-8. Resistant to lilac borers and powdery mildew. Salt- and drought-tolerant. Native of Japan. See page 44 for other lilacs. Z3. ME Grown. (18-48" transplants)



4912 Japanese Tree Lilac, \$15.00

***Ulmus glabra* 'Camperdownii' Camperdown Elm** 15x30' Discovered in 1640 in Dundee, Scotland, by the Earl of Camperdown who recognized its unique and wonderful shape, and grafted it onto a Scotch or Wych elm (*U. glabra*). All the Camperdown elms in the world come from that original tree. Low-growing mounded very wide-spreading weeping form. Somewhat contorted branches laden with thick dark green summer foliage hang to the ground, creating a protected "room" which looks quite dense from the outside, but is completely open on the inside—plenty of space for a table and chairs. To establish a weeping habit at the height you desire, follow instructions on page 36 for weeping crab. The leaves, much larger than the familiar American elm's, turn yellow in autumn. Many older specimens of this amazing tree are thriving around the state, including those by the Camden amphitheater and the two next to the Maine State Capitol's entryway, overlooking the Kennebec River. Not susceptible to Dutch elm disease. Prefers well-drained moist fertile soils. Z4/5. ME Grown. (3-4' grafted trees)

4923 Camperdown Elm, \$40.00

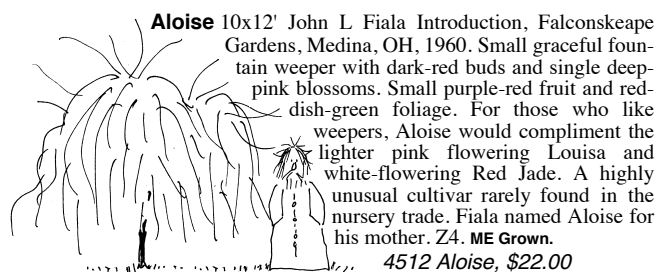


Malus Flowering and Culinary Crabapples

Crabapples have a wonderful presence in the yard. We avoid the typical garish big-box offerings in favor of interesting and little-known varieties. We constantly look out for the best: small to medium-sized trees with four-season interest. Magnificent spring blooms, clean vibrant summer foliage, showy fall and winter fruit, and eye-catching shapes and branching habits year-round. Some produce masses of persistent fruit that will attract birds all winter and into spring; others produce fruit for the jelly jar or no fruit at all. I limit pruning to a touch-up here and there, allowing each to express its unique identity.

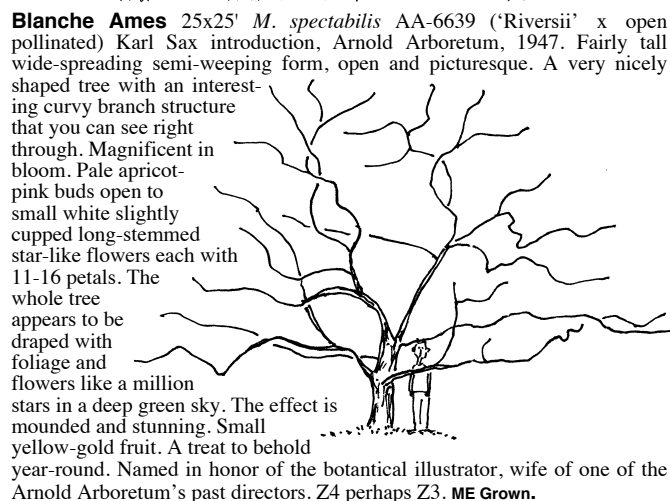
A crabapple is an apple with fruit smaller than 2" in diameter. Of the 24 recognized species of apples, most are considered to be crabs. My own love of crabapples stems (pardon the pun) largely from visits to the excellent collections in the Arnold Arboretum in Boston and the Lyle Littlefield Gardens in Orono. The Arnold has one of the most extensive collections in the world. The best book is John Fiala's definitive text, *Flowering Crabapples: The Genus Malus*.

Most crabapples bloom annually in May just before the lilacs and make excellent pollinators for any apple. (3 1/2'-6' trees)



Aloise 10x12' John L Fiala Introduction, Falconskeape Gardens, Medina, OH, 1960. Small graceful fountain weeper with dark-red buds and single deep-pink blossoms. Small purple-red fruit and reddish-green foliage. For those who like weepers, Aloise would compliment the lighter pink flowering Louisa and white-flowering Red Jade. A highly unusual cultivar rarely found in the nursery trade. Fiala named Aloise for his mother. Z4. ME Grown.

4512 Aloise, \$22.00



Blanche Ames 25x25' *M. spectabilis* AA-6639 ('Riversii' x open pollinated) Karl Sax introduction, Arnold Arboretum, 1947. Fairly tall wide-spreading semi-weeping form, open and picturesque. A very nicely shaped tree with an interesting curvy branch structure that you can see right through. Magnificent in bloom. Pale apricot-pink buds open to small white slightly cupped long-stemmed star-like flowers each with 11-16 petals. The whole tree appears to be draped with foliage and flowers like a million stars in a deep green sky. The effect is mounded and stunning. Small yellow-gold fruit. A treat to behold year-round. Named in honor of the botanical illustrator, wife of one of the Arnold Arboretum's past directors. Z4 perhaps Z3. ME Grown.

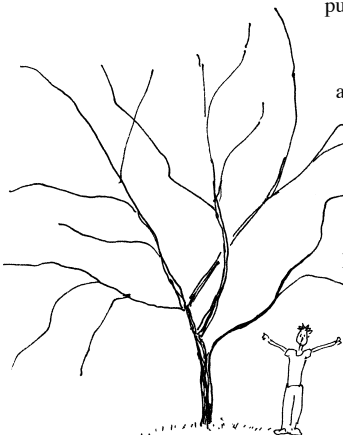
4530 Blanche Ames, \$22.00

Dolgo 25x30' From seed collected by NE Hansen of *M. x robusta* in 1897 at the Imperial Botanical Gardens, St. Petersburg, Russia. (*Dolgo* means 'long' in Russian.) Introduced in the U.S. in 1917. The classic culinary crab still found in old Maine backyards. Apricot-pink buds and large fragrant 2" pure white single flowers bloom early.

Beautiful purple-red 1 1/2" teardrop-shaped fruit makes flavorful clear ruby-red jelly. In recent years the aromatic very sweet, very acidic fruit has found favor with hard cider makers. Also useful for canning and pickling. Vigorous large blocky upright spreading tree consistently yields abundant summer crops. Lower branches will drape to the ground if left unpruned. Dependable pollinator for all apples.

Parent of many named varieties including Centennial, Kerr and Spring Snow. Quite hardy. Z2. ME Grown.

4575 Dolgo, \$22.00

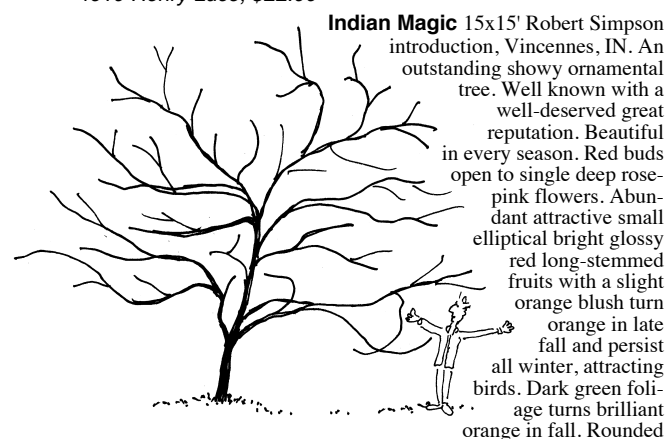


Donald Wyman 20x30' Chance seedling. Arnold Arboretum, 1970. If I could plant only one crab, I would plant a Donald Wyman. Deep pink buds and large 2" single white flowers early in the season. The bloom is so intense, the tree looks like one massive flower. Beautiful rounded wide-spreading medium-sized tree with attractive glossy green foliage. Looks great when it has room to spread out. The shape alone is enough to recommend this cultivar. The bright 3/8" red oval fruit completely covers the tree in clusters and persists until spring when the birds clean it off in time for the next bloom. 2001 winner of the Carey Award for Distinctive Plants for New England. Named in honor of America's great horticulturist. Disease-free, although said to be slightly susceptible to powdery mildew. Z4. ME Grown.

4579 Donald Wyman, \$22.00

Henry Luce 20x30' (?) Unknown parentage. Roger Luce introduction, Newburgh, ME, c. 1995. Light pink blossoms, bronze-reddish foliage and 1" dark-red-fleshed fruit for jellies and wildlife. The slightly tear-dropped-shaped fruit is also deep-red-skinned. A chance seedling discovered by Roger Luce where it was leaning out of one of his old overgrown nursery beds. When I first saw it, it was just a single leggy branch that had wiggled its way out of the jungle. Roger gave us a handful of fruit the day when we were visiting and we gave him back a single jar of beautiful clear red jelly. I say "introduction" by Roger though he never actually did so. However, he did name the tree after his brother. Shortly after Roger's passing, I planted a specimen on our farm. My hope was to see what it would look like given a bit of open ground, something he was never able to do. Now ours is pushing 16 feet and beginning to show its true self. So far so good. It's open and spreading with wide-angled branches, covered with fruit every year. Zone 4 or maybe 3. ME Grown.

4610 Henry Luce, \$22.00



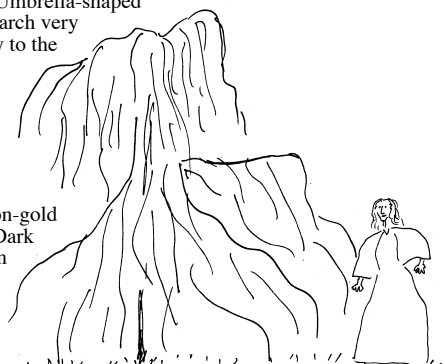
Indian Magic 15x15' Robert Simpson introduction, Vincennes, IN. An outstanding showy ornamental tree. Well known with a well-deserved great reputation. Beautiful in every season. Red buds open to single deep rose-pink flowers. Abundant attractive small elliptical bright glossy red long-stemmed fruits with a slight orange blush turn orange in late fall and persist all winter, attracting birds. Dark green foliage turns brilliant orange in fall. Rounded

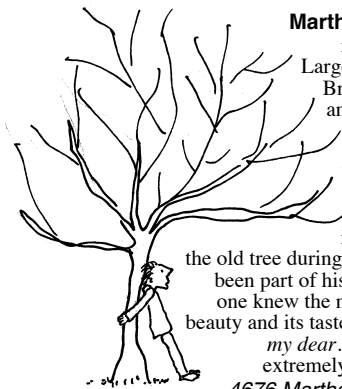
open form. Rarely affected by scab. Midseason bloom. Z4. ME Grown.

4628 Indian Magic, \$22.00

Louisa 15x15' Martha's Vineyard, MA, 1962. Introduced by Polly Hill and named for her daughter. Umbrella-shaped weeping form. Branches arch very slightly then hang loosely to the ground and sway in the breeze almost like a weeping willow. Rose-colored buds open to cheerful true pink flowers, not at all garish. Small cute two-toned long-stemmed fruit, lemon-gold with a small rose blush. Dark green foliage. Father John Fiala calls it "one of the newer weepers that should be far better known and grown. An outstanding crabapple." Disease resistant. Z4. ME Grown.

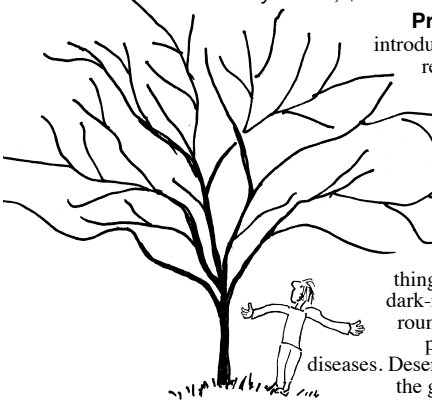
4659 Louisa, \$22.00





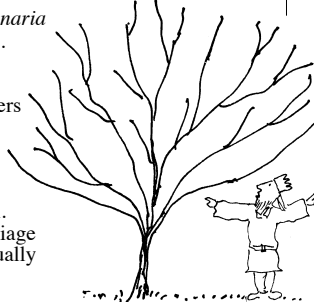
Martha *M. baccata* seedling. Peter Gideon introduction, Excelsior, MN, c. 1839. Large-fruited crab for eating and cooking. Bright rosy-red fruit with some striping and numerous small light-colored dots. Yellowish flesh is coarse, crisp, juicy and quite delicious. Suitable for fresh eating as well as for jellies, jams and other cooking enterprises. Jason Davis of Cayford Orchards in Skowhegan, ME, introduced me to the old tree during a visit a few years ago. The crab had been part of his family's orchard for generations; no one knew the name. I was immediately struck by its beauty and its taste. Later I was able to label it: Martha, my dear. Medium-sized and annually bearing, extremely long-lived and hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**
4676 Martha, \$22.00

Mary Potter 15x30' AA 17039 (*M. sargentii* 'Rosea' x *M. x atrosanguinea*) Karl Sax intro. 1939, Arnold Arboretum, Boston, MA. A magnificent and very rare variety with an apricot-white bloom, a beautiful shape and masses of red persistent fruit for the birds. While the tree itself is relatively low in stature, it is quite wide-spreading with branches that broadly arch to the ground and then sweep upward. Be sure to give it plenty of space. The red buds retain their color while the strongly fragrant single white blossoms open. In full bloom the tree is a mass of flowers with no foliage visible at all. On top of that, the bright yellow stamens add an apricot hue to the entire tree in bloom. Spectacular! A must for every crab collection. Z4. **ME Grown.**
4677 Mary Potter, \$22.00



Prairifire 20'x20' DF Dayton introduction, U Illinois, 1982. The reddest crab. Nearly true-red flowers, red buds and red persistent fruits that do not drop. Excellent for wildlife. The foliage matures from red-maroon to deep-green over the season. One customer wrote to us calling Prairifire "the prettiest thing you've ever seen." Glossy dark-red bark. Upright spreading rounded tree. Rarely shows any problems from scab or other diseases. Deservedly becoming popular in the general trade. Z4. **ME Grown.**
4733 Prairifire, \$22.00

Prince Georges 15x15' (*M. ioensis* x *M. coronaria* var. *angustifolia*) Arnold Arboretum, MA, 1943. Deep pink buds and double light pink rose-type flowers, each with an amazing 53-61 petals. Heavy spectacular annual bloom. Fragrant flowers look—and smell—like roses, an excellent alternative to Brandywine. The last crab to flower each spring and always worth the wait. Small open tree requires practically no pruning and is suited to even the smallest yard or garden. Medium-green narrow palmate "maple-like" foliage reminiscent of Paperbark Maple. No fruit. Virtually disease-free. Z4. **ME Grown.**
4736 Prince Georges, \$22.00

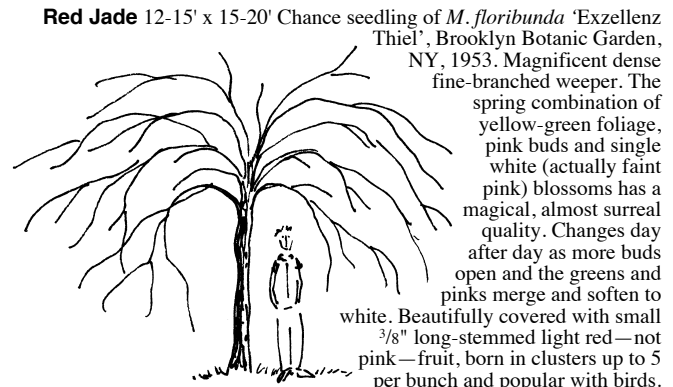


Training Your Weeping Crab

First summer: Stake the tree and do not prune at all. Staking keeps the tree from weeping before reaching the desired height. Tie the tip of the central leader snugly to the stake.

Second summer: Decide the height you want weeping to begin. Continue to train the leader to the stake until it reaches the desired height. Leave some but not all the lower branches.

Later years: Once the leader reaches the desired height, let several branches form and begin to weep. (The nicest weepers I've seen begin weeping at about 6-8' high.) Over 2-3 years, remove all the lower branches. Eventually remove the stake. Continue to remove lower branches as necessary.

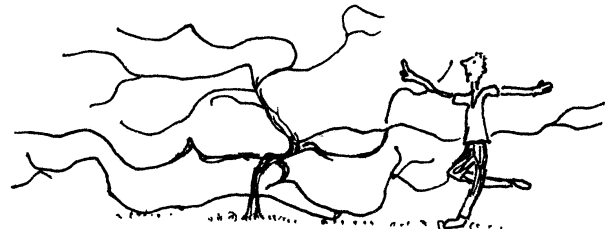


Red Jade 12-15' x 15-20' Chance seedling of *M. floribunda* 'Exzellenz Thiel', Brooklyn Botanic Garden, NY, 1953. Magnificent dense fine-branched weeper. The spring combination of yellow-green foliage, pink buds and single white (actually faint pink) blossoms has a magical, almost surreal quality. Changes day after day as more buds open and the greens and pinks merge and soften to white. Beautifully covered with small $\frac{3}{8}$ " long-stemmed light red—not pink—fruit, born in clusters up to 5 per bunch and popular with birds. Glossy vibrant green foliage. Using long stakes and judicious pruning, I have trained my 8-year-old tree to begin weeping at 7'. The arching branches rise to 10' and hang to 5' above the grass. The spread is about 12'. Within the next few years it should reach a spread of 20' and drape nearly to the ground. Z4. **ME Grown.**
4754 Red Jade, \$22.00

Red Swan 10x14'. John Fiala introduction, Falconskape, Medina, OH, 1989. A small tree with long fine graceful branches and a broad-spreading mop-topped disheveled weeping form. Pendulous reddish-pink buds and light pink flowers turn white as they mature. Masses of small elliptical bright orange-red persistent fruit hangs until January. Golden yellow fall foliage. The great crabapple breeder John Fiala considered Red Swan (originally called **Red Snow**) to be one of his best introductions. Z3. **ME Grown.**
4761 Red Swan, \$22.00



Sargent 8x15' (*M. sargentii* var. 'Grant's Five and Dime') Arnold Arboretum, 1892. Originally brought to the U.S. from Japan by one of America's most famous horticulturists, CS Sargent (Mary Potter's father). The smallest crab species, densely and horizontally branched from the base with no tendency to develop a central leader. The branches curve and twist and turn like a large pretzel. Pink buds and profuse pure-white fragrant single flowers seem to bloom forever. Birds are crazy about its mass of very small dark red-purple persistent fruit. Plant this crab by your winter birdwatching window. Often propagated by seed, so many strains exist. This strain, which Phyllis Jantos originally bought nearly half a century ago for \$1.50 at Grant's Five and Dime, blooms annually, unusual for a Sargent. Dark green foliage. Disease resistant. Z4. **ME Grown.**
4780 Sargent, \$22.00



Crabapples are really just apples in disguise. They prefer full sun and deep well-drained soils of 5.5–6.5 pH but they are quite forgiving and will thrive in many locations with a little TLC. They don't like to be drowned or starved for water, and they do need to be protected from borers, mice and deer. See page 6. Planting instructions on page 5.

Pruning Crabapples

Most crabapples require little or no pruning except when a branch is broken or you feel compelled to shape your tree in one way or another. Allow each tree to assume its own unique form. Weeping crabs however do require pruning and training.

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Woody Ornamental Shrubs

Although many of these shrubs are multi-use plants, all are cultivated primarily for their flowers, fragrance, foliage or interesting form. They range from diminutive and delicate to large and breathtaking. Some are old standards and some are relatively unknown. We plant them to reduce the amount of lawn we feel compelled to mow, while increasing the beauty and wildlife cover that surrounds us. It's great to see our edible landscape growing and sequestering more carbon every year!

Abelia mosanensis Fragrant Abelia 4-6' x same. Delicate showy exceedingly fragrant pink campanulate (bell-shaped tubular) white-centered flowers. Somewhat loose plant with graceful arching stems. Best as a specimen or hedge planting. Blooms in late spring. As fragrant as hyacinth or even Koreanspice bush. Glossy green foliage turns orange-red in fall. Full sun to partial shade. Easy to grow. Prune after flowering. Tolerates most average soils but prefers acid, moist and well-drained. Native to Korea. Z4. **ME Grown.** (16-24" transplants)
4927 Fragrant Abelia, \$12.00

Abeliophyllum distichum White Forsythia 4x4' Vigorous multistemmed informal rounded shrub with clusters of white spicy-scented forsythia-like flowers in very early spring. Smooth-edged lime-green foliage. In form somewhere between a shrub and a ground cover: mostly waist high, but decidedly low-growing in places. A good companion for true forsythia and a more reliable bloomer than forsythia in the North. Prefers sunny well-drained locations, but will tolerate moist soils. Cut back to 6-12" every 3-4 years. Native to Korea. Z4. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)
4930 White Forsythia, \$9.00

Aronia arbutifolia 'Brilliantissima' Red Chokeberry 6-10' x 3-5' In his book *Best of the Hardest*, John Sabuco calls red chokeberry "one of our finest native landscape shrubs." Upright multistemmed form. Dense clusters of small but showy white flowers with red stamens. Dark green foliage turns a spectacular crimson in the fall. In huge demand as the best alternative to the invasive burning bush. Birds love the abundant persistent glossy bright red fruit. Spreads by suckers. Beautiful in masses, plantings and borders. Transplants easily. Adapted to many soils, wet or dry, but prefers moist and well-drained. Sun or partial shade. Can be trained into a small tree. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. (12-24" transplants)
4961 Red Chokeberry, \$9.00

A. melanocarpa Black Chokeberry 4-6' x same. Compact rounded shrub suckers profusely to form colonies. Showy white blooms in late spring. Glossy green summer foliage turns brilliant wine-red in fall. Like the Red Chokeberry, it's an excellent alternative to the highly invasive burning bush. No more burning bush—or George Bush, for that matter! Attractive black berries are palatable enough for fresh eating but are more suitable for juice, jelly or our feathered friends. Its black fruit and glossy foliage distinguish *A. melanocarpa* from *A. arbutifolia*. Not particularly picky about where it grows. Adaptable to wet or dry areas, sun or partial shade. Free of diseases and insects. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (16-24" transplants)
4968 Black Chokeberry, \$9.00

Buddleia Butterfly Bush Colorful attractive arching shrub with 4-6" panicles of fragrant flowers in midsummer that are guaranteed to attract zillions of butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. In New England treat it as an herbaceous perennial. Cut it to the ground in early spring—or just let it die back—and it will bloom again on new wood come summer. Reblooms throughout the summer if spent flowers are cut. Recommended for shrub or perennial borders. Grey-green foliage. Easy to transplant. Very adaptable but begs for full sun. Can become a nuisance in southern states, but that shouldn't ever be a problem up here. The renowned plantsman Michael Dirr is a big fan of *Buddleia*. Usually considered to be a Zone 5 plant though it may do well in Zone 4. (well-rooted crowns)

B. davidii 'Bicolor' 6-8' x same. Selection of Honeycomb. Michael Dirr intro. Each two-toned panicle includes both butterscotch yellow and lavender flowers. Compact habit. **ME Grown.**

4990 Bicolor Butterfly Bush, \$12.00

B. x weyeriana 'Honeycomb' 4-6' x same. Michael Dirr introduction. Creamy-yellow buds followed by yellow flowers, each with a deep orange eye. Upright spreading habit. **ME Grown.**

4995 Honeycomb Butterfly Bush, \$12.00

B. d. 'Potter's Purple' 6-8' x same. Large 8" purple lightly fragrant flower panicles. Lance-shaped dark green foliage with silvery underside. **ME Grown.**

5007 Potter's Purple Butterfly Bush, \$12.00

Caragana arborescens Siberian Peashrub 15-20' Nitrogen-fixing cheerful bright green upright multistemmed oval shrub well-suited to wind-breaks, hedges and borders. Delicate yellow flowers in spring are followed by small seed pods that turn a golden yellow. The pods and the small "peas" are edible. Eaten raw, they taste like garden peas, though not as sweet. Makes an acceptable chicken feed. Silvery bark and compound foliage, each with 8-12 small obovate leaflets. Easy to grow; just put them in and let them go. Adaptable to poor soils, drought, salt. Full sun. Maintenance free. Occasionally rumored to be invasive, although ours have stayed put for twenty years and not spread by seed or root. Native to Siberia and Manchuria. Z2. **ME Grown.** (16-30" transplants)
5027 Siberian Peashrub, \$9.00

Celastrus scandens American Bittersweet or False Bittersweet 20' or more. A highly ornamental native vine. The insignificant flower display in spring is followed by beautiful grape-like clusters of small red-orange-yellow berries used for holiday wreaths and other dried flower arrangements. Also beautiful right on the vine. (This is *not* the invasive Asian Bittersweet—*C. orbiculatus*—which you should never grow!) Deep glossy summer foliage turns yellow-green in fall. Very vigorous climbing twining habit, will grow in nearly any soils although it does not like the driest sites. Suitable for covering porches, stone walls, rough hillsides, old cars and unsightly outbuildings. Prune it extensively every year to keep it from taking over. Prefers full sun. Male and female required for fruit. These are unsexed vines. Although some plants may have both male and female flowers, plant two or three plants to ensure fruit. Native to eastern North America. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-yr well-rooted)
5038 American Bittersweet, \$9.00

Cephalanthus occidentalis Buttonbush 6-10' x 8' Loose rounded branchy shrub with bright green foliage and masses of highly attractive unusual spherical fragrant white flowers. Suitable for the garden, the stream or pond, or even an old floating log. Don't be surprised if you come across buttonbush growing in the river next time you head out in the canoe. But this is no invasive plant. Flowers appear for 4-6 weeks in summer, a magnet for honey bees. They also make interesting dried flowers. The seeds (nutlets) make good fodder for the ducks in the fall. Prefers moist soils! Recommended for naturalizing. Native to eastern U.S., west to New Mexico. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-4' transplants)
5049 Buttonbush, \$10.00

***Chaenomeles speciosa* Iwai Nishiki Flowering Quince** 3-4' x 8'
Bright red-orange camellia-shaped 2" double flowers bloom before the foliage opens in spring. Frilly yellow stamens add to the effect. Large blossom-clusters can be up to 6" across. Compact fast-growing upright-rounded shrub fits nicely in smaller spaces. Nearly horizontal branching pattern creates an attractive layered look. The delightful scent of the intensely fragrant fruit will fill your yard. Use the sour fruit to fill your jam jars. (The genus *Chaenomeles*, pronounced ky-NOM-aleez, is not the edible Quince, *Cydonia oblonga*, of Owl and Pussycat fame.) Prefers dry to medium moist soils with medium drainage. A preferred choice of bonsai growers. Native of Asia. Incredibly tough plant said to be hardy to -25°. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (16-24" transplants)

5055 Iwai Nishiki Flowering Quince, \$12.00

***C. lagenaria* 'Rubra' Red Flowering Quince** 4-6' x same.
Multistemmed wide vase-shaped somewhat arching rounded shrub that I've had growing by the path up from the driveway for 20 years. Looks good all season. The extended blooming period is one of the brighter signs of spring. Prolific and showy 5-petaled crimson red flowers appear just before the foliage. Leaves are shiny dark green and slightly leathery, reminiscent of holly. Regularly sends up more stems but never seems to spread much. The medium-sized fruit is edible but bitter. However, it is valued for its culinary and medicinal qualities in east Asia. Average acid soil. Sun to partial shade. You might get better fruiting in full sun. Native to east Asia. Said to be Zone 5 but mine has done well in Zone 4. **ME Grown.** (2' - 3' transplants)

5060 Red Flowering Quince, \$12.00

***Clethra alnifolia* 'Ruby Spice' Summersweet or Sweet Pepperbush** 4-5' x same. Sport of 'Pink

Spikes', Broken Arrow Nursery, Hamden, CT, 1992. A *New York Times* article called *Clethra* "a plant that sounds almost too good to be true." Red buds and beautiful spikes of heavenly scented deep pink flowers appear on racemes for 6 weeks in midsummer. Bees and butterflies love it but rabbits and deer do not. Whorls of extremely attractive finely serrated distinctly veined dark green foliage turn deep gold in fall. Dangling racemes of "peppers" persist into the next growing season. Erect rounded-oval habit, often suckering to form dense colonies. Slow growing. Prefers acid moist well-drained soils. A good shrub to border streams and ponds. Will tolerate salty coastal conditions. Full sun to shade. Pest free and easy to grow. Native from Maine to Florida. Z3. **ME Grown.** (12-36" transplants)

5069 Ruby Spice Summersweet, \$11.00

***Comptonia peregrina* Sweetfern** 2-4' x spreading. The narrow 3-6" deeply incised dark green aromatic fern-like foliage is what gives Sweetfern its common name. The deciduous shrub with its uneven, mounded arching habit will sucker almost indefinitely, creating maintenance-free colonies. A magnificent no-frills alternative to the lawn. A nearly perfect ground cover, as it thrives in sandy gravelly sterile infertile soils, where grass won't dare to tread. Even boulder cracks and roadsides! Dry or wet. Sun-partial shade. Native to eastern U.S. Z2. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

5078 Sweetfern, \$10.00

***Cotinus coggygria* 'Royal Purple' Smokebush** 8-10' x same. Boskoop, Netherlands. Upright spreading shrub with velvety dark purple foliage and amazing purplish-pink inflorescences that look like large smoke puffs on top of the branches throughout summer. Each one of these cotton candy-like poofs is composed of a web of fine stems, the smallest of which are lined with tiny hairs that reflect the light and create an ethereal effect. Quite remarkable. For maximum glow, plant where the sun will shine right through each luminescent leaf. Red-burgundy fall color. Often considered a Zone 5 plant, but reliably grows back and flowers each summer in Zone 4. Some say to cut it to the ground each fall for more vigorous and more brightly colored growth. I leave mine to come back on its own. So far it hasn't let me down. Adaptable to a wide range of pH and soils although it prefers it well-drained. Disease free. Native southern Europe to China. Z4. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)

5116 Royal Purple Smokebush, \$10.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Pruning Directions for Ornamental Shrubs, Trees and Berries

Proper pruning enhances the beauty and usefulness of flowering shrubs and trees. Trim shrubs for large blooms, fine foliage and good form.

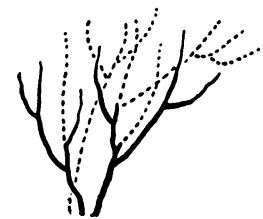
Why Pruning Is Necessary

- Most shrubs need a few of the older canes cut off at the ground line each year to encourage the growth of new canes. This is a natural rejuvenation procedure replacing old canes with new.
- Pruning produces larger and better blooms as the vitality of the plant goes to the blossoms, rather than to supporting heavy wood growth.
- Remove poorly shaped longer branches to retain the natural shape of the shrub.
- Remove broken, dead or diseased branches for health, neatness and vigor.
- Shrubs with unusual bark coloring should have the older canes removed, as the full natural coloring is displayed best in the new growth.
- Certain varieties of shrubs sucker from the roots. Remove these suckers unless you want the shrub to spread and form colonies.

Pruning shrubs is primarily thinning out older undesirable canes. Plants such as hydrangeas, altheas, tea roses, tamarix and dogwoods should have all canes pruned back to produce larger flowers or more brightly colored canes.

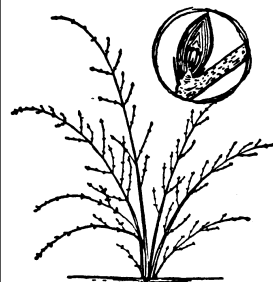
The form of a tree may be controlled by pruning. If you desire a tall tree with a high crown, prune the lateral branches from the trunk and prevent formation of low crotches. For a low, stocky tree used in screens and windbreaks, cut back the top shoots to force side growth.

Remove oldest wood and center branches (a few each year).



Prune Late-Flowering Shrubs Early

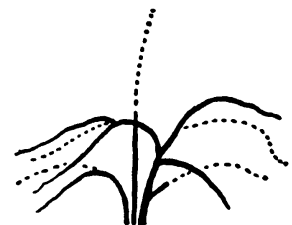
Midsummer-flowering shrubs form flower buds on new wood. For maximum bloom, prune them in early spring before the new wood begins to grow.



Prune Early-Flowering Shrubs Later

Spring-flowering shrubs form flower buds in the summer after they are finished blooming. For maximum bloom the following year, prune them immediately after their bloom is over.

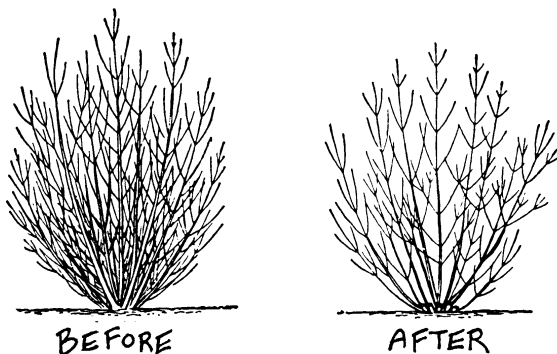
Retain natural arching habit by pruning branches after flowering. Otherwise new growth starts at the tips of flowering branches and the shrub gets top-heavy.



Pinch off the growing tips and remove flowers as soon as faded.



Prune For Healthy Growth

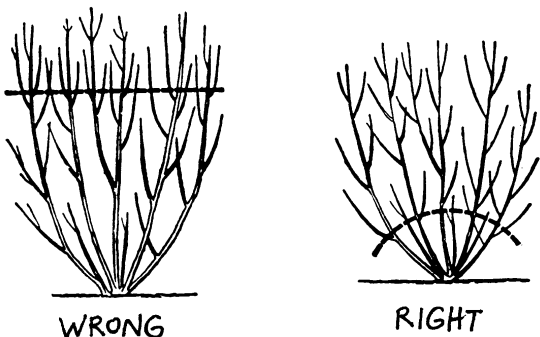


Before

Your shrubs will tell you when they need thinning. Shrubs such as Honeysuckle send up too many canes for optimal growth. Cut off a few of the oldest and least vigorous branches close to the ground. Do not injure the bark on canes to be saved.

After

Note the difference thinning of canes makes. Air and light can now penetrate. Fewer canes promote vigor, health and vitality. Plants will produce more and larger blossoms. Slow growing, less vigorous shrubs seldom need thinning out.



Prune For Symmetry and Appearance

Cutting back shrubs straight across the top is a common error. This encourages top-growth and the lower part of the shrub, with no foliage near the base, becomes woody and unsightly. Growth stays low and bushy when properly pruned.

Proper pruning promotes growth at the base of the shrub. Larger flowers on hydrangeas, altheas, hybrid tea roses, tamarix and butterfly bush are obtained by severe pruning. Colorful branches and twigs on dogwoods develop on new stems.

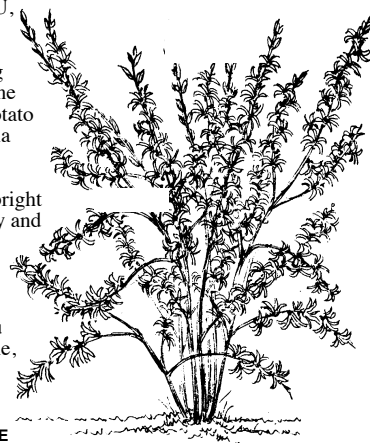


What To Do with Overgrown Shrubs

Overgrown shrubs with little foliage near the base may be rejuvenated by cutting down each cane at the ground line in early March. All overgrown shrubs should be pruned thusly, even though early blooms may be sacrificed.

Shrubs cut back for rejuvenation will send forth new shoots in late spring. This growth will be bushy with foliage clear to the ground. Pinch off tops when the desired height is attained. It usually takes two to three years to rejuvenate shrubs and hedges completely.

Forsythia x 'Meadowlark' *Forsythia* 6-11' x same. (*F. ovata* x *F. europaea*) North Dakota St U. 1986. From a cross made between Korean Early and Albanian forsythias. Welcoming everyone to spring, from mile one on the Maine Turnpike to the potato prairies of The County, Forsythia means the end of another long winter and the birth of color. Semi-arching habit and showy bright yellow blooms. Extremely hardy and reliably flowering. Meadowlark is one of the hardiest forsythias, with bud hardness to -35°. Don't be fooled by cheap imitations at the Big Box. If you want blooms above the snow line, shop at Fedco! Prefers moderately fertile slightly acid-to-neutral soils with good drainage. Best in full sun. Z3. ME Grown. (12-24" transplants)



5138 Meadowlark Forsythia, \$10.00

Fothergilla major *Large Fothergilla* 6-10' x same. Magnificent rounded multistemmed shrub with slender crooked branches becoming dense with maturity. Amazing small creamy-white honey-scented bottlebrush-shaped flowers (inflorescences) with long showy stamens. Blooms in spring, usually around lilac time. Attractive dark green to blue-green leathery leaves turn brilliant yellow, orange and scarlet, often on the same leaf, in fall. A great shrub year-round. Prefers moist well-drained peaty acidic soil but is very adaptable. Sun to two-thirds shade. Disease- and pest-free. Native to southeastern U.S. Z4. ME Grown. (12-24" transplants)

5157 Large Fothergilla, \$12.00

Hydrangea arborescens 'Annabelle' *Hydrangea* 3-5' x same. A major improvement over the old standard herbaceous hydrangea. A very upright yet rounded shrub, the earliest and most erect of the hydrangeas. Large clusters (up to 1') of showy white to faint-yellow flowers bloom from late June till September. Big 5-6" almost heart-shaped foliage. Grows fast, suckers freely, thrives in shade. Cut to the ground and fertilize lightly in late winter for stunning bloom next summer. Suited to perennial borders and naturalized gardens. A Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Gold Medal Plant Award winner. Species native to eastern U.S. Z3. ME Grown. (1-yr #1 plants)

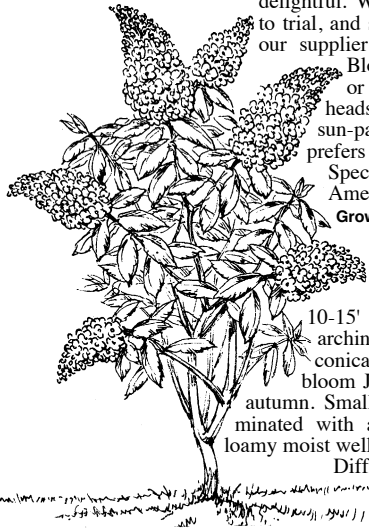
5168 Annabelle Hydrangea, \$15.00



H. macrophylla 'Endless Summer' *Hydrangea* 3-5' x same. Bailey Nursery Introduction, St. Paul, MN, 2004. The real name of this hydrangea is **The Original**, though most people think of it as Endless Summer. There are now actually three Endless Summers, each with a different color flower. Figure that one out. Anyway this is the blue-flowering hydrangea that is causing all the hoop-la in the gardening world. Most bigleaf hydrangeas (*H. macrophylla*) bloom only on old wood. After a typical Maine winter you get dead flower buds and no flowers. 'Endless Summer: the Original' blooms on old and new wood. Even if the plant dies to the ground, you'll get large showy 8" mop-head blooms that same summer. Please note, however, that some gardeners have been disappointed. To ensure blue flowers, you must have acidic soil. Otherwise they'll be pink. To acidify the soil, try following Henry Homeyer's advice from the University of New Hampshire: "Dig a hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the rootball. Discard half the soil, and mix the remaining soil with an equal quantity of moist peat moss. Peat moss is naturally acidic, and will also help to prevent wilting of the leaves on hot days....[Do not apply any] fertilizer, particularly soluble chemical fertilizers....Adding too much nitrogen...means that your plant will grow rapidly, and have nice dark green leaves, but produce few flowers." Sun or partial shade. Prefers deep well-drained acid soils with lots of organic matter. Native to Japan. Z4. (medium plants)

5172 Endless Summer Hydrangea, \$15.00

H. paniculata 'Limelight' Hydrangea 6-8' x same. Pieter Zwijnenburg, Jr. introduction. Boskoop, Netherlands. Pennsylvania Hort Society Gold Medal 2006. Large (6-12") upright very creamy-white flowers turn lime-green in August and then pale rose in fall. The contrasting colors are delightful. We gave grower Jen Ries Limelight to trial, and she fell in love. Now she's become our supplier. Train to a shrub or small tree.



Blooms on new wood. Prune late fall or early spring. Remove spent flower heads. Dark green foliage. Full sun-partial shade. Soil adaptable but prefers good loam with moderate moisture. Species native to North and South America and eastern Asia. Z3/4. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)

5182 Limelight Hydrangea, \$15.00

H. p. Pee Gee Hydrangea 8 x 10-15' Large upright woody shrub with arching branches and very showy large conical double white flower-clusters that bloom July-August, turning pink-bronze in autumn. Small serrated yellow-green leaves illuminated with a fine yellow edge. Prefers good loamy moist well-drained soil in sun or partial shade.

Difficult to kill; urban tolerant. Z4. **ME Grown.** (16-24" transplants)

5186 Pee Gee Hydrangea, \$15.00

Ilex verticillata Winterberry A staple of the Maine landscape. Deciduous suckering holly with clusters of upright stems. One of the few berry plants that grows even in dry shady spots. Lustrous deep green leaves retain their color long after they're cut for decoration. Richly foliated, but open enough to display its interesting branching structure. Best known for its profusions of bright red 3/8" berries which stand out after the leaves have fallen and keep their color all winter, looking spectacular against the snow. Excellent fall wildlife forage plant. Tolerates dry conditions but prefers moist or wet acidic soil, even standing water. Sun or partial shade. No serious pests or diseases. Male and female plants required for fruit. Plant males within 30' of females. Native from midwestern to eastern U.S. Z4.

I. v. 'Red Sprite' 3-5' x 4-8' Female plant. USDA introduction. Smaller plant than the straight species with an attractive low loose rounded form. Winner of the 1998 Cary Award for Distinctive Plants for New England. 'Jim Dandy' male required for fruit. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)

5189 Red Sprite Winterberry, \$10.00

I. v. 'Jim Dandy' 3-6' x 4-5' Male selection to pollinate 'Red Sprite' winterberry. One will pollinate several females. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)

5193 Male Jim Dandy Winterberry, \$10.00

I. v. 'Winter Red' 9x8' Female plant. Considerably larger than 'Red Sprite'. Darker green foliage. Winner of the 1995 Styer Award. 'Southern Gentleman' male required for fruit. (6-12" transplants)

5197 Winter Red Winterberry, \$10.00

I. v. 'Southern Gentleman' 6x6' Male selection to pollinate 'Winter Red' winterberry. Don't be deceived by the name—it's hardy. One will pollinate several females. (12-24" transplants)

5201 Southern Gentleman Winterberry, \$10.00

Itea virginica 'Henry's Garnet' Virginia Sweetspire 3-5' x 5-6'. Swarthmore College, PA. Spreading shrub with an erect clustered branching habit. Fragrant white flowers on upright racemes up to 6" long in early summer. Bright green foliage, brilliant reddish-purple fall color. Will form colonies.



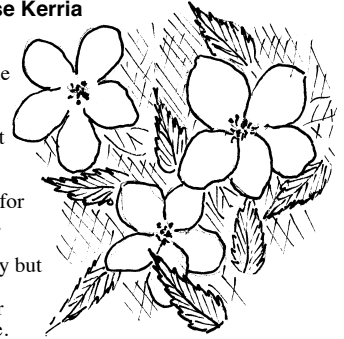
Henry's Garnet has both superior flowers and fall color. Winner of the prestigious Styer award and the 1999 Michigan Growers' Choice award.

Recommended for moist or wet areas although quite drought tolerant as well. Sun or shade, pH adaptable. Species native to eastern U.S. Z5 or maybe 4. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

5204 Henry's Garnet Sweetspire, \$10.00

Kerria japonica 'Superba' Japanese Kerria

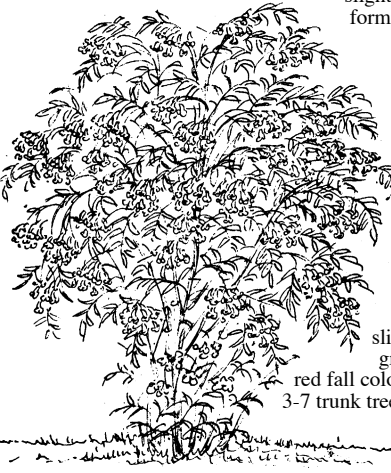
3-6' x 6-9' Upright arching flowering shrub forming a relatively low rounded broad twiggy mass. Very attractive single golden yellow flowers for 2-3 weeks in spring. Beautiful in the vase. Bright green serrated foliage with no significant fall coloring. Slender stems have a distinctive showy yellow-green winter color. Michael Dirr recommends Kerria for borders and masses. Adapted to full sun, partial shade or even full shade. Prefers well-drained soil of only medium fertility but is easy to grow in almost any soil. Slow growth rate at first, becoming faster over time. Cut back heavily from time to time. Tough rugged plant. Native of China. Z4. **ME Grown.** (16-24" transplants)



5209 Japanese Kerria, \$11.00

Kolkwitzia amabilis Beautybush

6-10' x 6-8' Fast-growing multistemmed shrub that likes to have plenty of room for its old-fashioned slightly unkempt arching vase-shaped form. Blooms in June, just before the mockorange and after the lilacs. Completely covered with small fragrant medium-pink 5-petaled tubular flowers, each throat etched with a web of yellow-orange veins and dots. The blossoms appear on the side shoots of every stem, up to 20 per cluster. There are literally thousands on a mature specimen. While the overall appearance is pink, the orange throat enriches the color. A real knock-out. Matte bluish-green slightly rugose foliage. Brown and grey exfoliating bark. Yellow and red fall color. Can also be pruned to a small 3-7 trunk tree. Flowers can be forced indoors in spring. Prune after flowering, removing the oldest branches back to the ground. Excellent as a specimen or background shrub for short-statured plantings. Easy to grow in any type of soil. Prefers full sun. No serious pests or disease. Native to central China. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

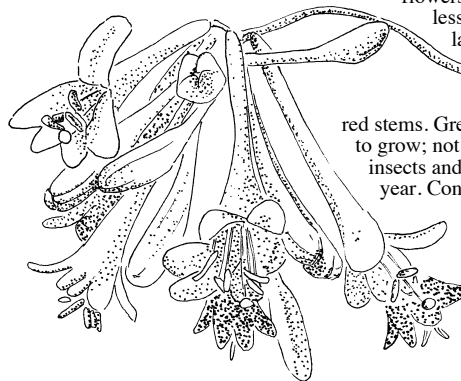


5210 Beautybush, \$11.00

Lindera benzoin Spicebush 6-12' x 8-12' Large rounded multistemmed flowering native shrub suited to naturalizing in moist or wet areas, singly or in groups. Often found in full or partial shade, but at its showiest in full sun. Soft-yellow flowers early in spring followed by small clusters of glossy red berries by mid to late summer. Will attract bees birds and butterflies. Blue-green foliage turns golden yellow in fall. Scratch the berries, foliage or stems and you'll know where it got its name: all three have a delicious lemony-spicy scent. Male and female plants required for fruit. These are unsexed seedlings. Prefers moist well-drained neutral or slightly acidic soils. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (16-24" transplants)

5215 Spicebush, \$12.00

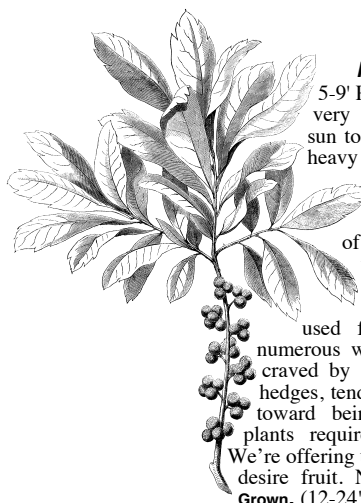
Lonicera x brownii Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle 10-20' (*L. sempervirens* x *L. hirsuta*) Tall climbing honeysuckle developed by FL Skinner in Manitoba. Jazzy whimsical clusters of 1 1/2" scarlet-orange tubular flowers bloom profusely and tirelessly from early summer into late fall. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.



Striking blue-green foliage on red stems. Great for fence or arbor. Easy to grow; not invasive; generally free of insects and diseases. Flowers the first year. Considered the hardiest vining honeysuckle. Z3. (2-yr medium plants)

5222 Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle, \$10.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop



***Myrica pensylvanica* Bayberry**

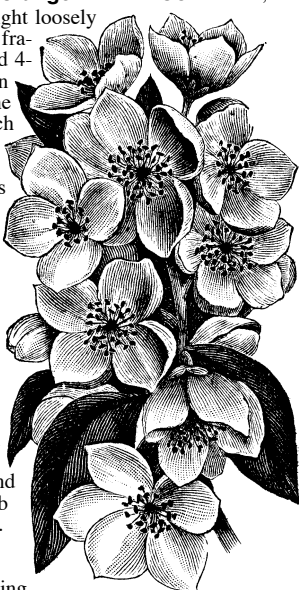
5-9' Rounded deciduous semi-evergreen very salt-tolerant shrub thrives in full sun to partial shade, sandy poor soils to heavy clay soils. A common sight on Maine's coastal islands. Rubbing the glossy deep green leaves between your fingers produces one of the most delicious smells in the world. Small greyish-blue waxy berries produced on female plants are highly aromatic, historically used for candle making. Plants feed numerous wildlife species and are especially craved by swallows. Excellent in masses or hedges, tends to sucker. Fixes nitrogen. Tends toward being dioecious. Male and female plants required for good fruit development. We're offering unsexed plants; plant several if you desire fruit. Native to eastern U.S. Z2/3. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)

5240 Bayberry, \$12.00

***Philadelphus lewisii* Blizzard Mockorange**

4-5' x 3' COPF intro, Alberta, Canada. Medium-sized coarse upright loosely arching blooming shrub. A "blizzard" of fragrant beautiful pure-white slightly cupped 4-petaled blossoms for up to four weeks in late spring, after the lilacs fade. This is the classic single-flowered mockorange. Each flower is accented by a spray of golden yellow anthers. The contrast of the flowers and deep-dark-blue-green foliage is lovely. Prefers moist rich well-drained soils but will grow well in most conditions. Full sun to partial shade. Prune after flowering. Native to western Asia. Z3.

5267 Blizzard Mockorange, \$10.00



***Potentilla fruticosa* Potentilla**

Also called **Shrubby Cinquefoil** or **Widdy**. A compact rounded to broadly rounded bushy shrub with showy five-petaled rose-like flowers. Flowers all summer long, beginning the first year. Very small attractive grey-green compound leaves. Excellent landscape plant for shrub borders, low hedges, rock walls and steps. Loved by bees. Full sun or partial shade. Best in fertile moist well-drained soil, but tolerates poor dry soil. Said to need sweating before planting to break dormancy, but I've been planting them without any special treatment for years and have never had a failure. Unbelievably hardy. Native to Northern Hemisphere. Z2.

P. f. 'Abbottswood' 2-3' x same. Prolific, pure white single flowers with light yellow stamens. Begins to flower about mid-June in central Maine. The first of the potentillas to bloom in our yard, at least a couple weeks before 'Primrose Beauty' and nearly a month before 'Pink Beauty'. The bloom is quite heavy for several weeks, then slacks off a bit but still keeps putting out a stream of small cheerful white flowers. Very nice selection. Few problems with insects or disease. Originated in Holland. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

5288 Abbottswood Potentilla, \$10.00

P. f. 'Goldfinger' 3x3' Nothing subtle about Goldfinger. Brilliant golden yellow single flowers. If you like yellow, Goldfinger is *really* yellow! Begins flowering later in the season than Abbottswood and looks good in combination with the less extreme cultivars. I like my one Goldfinger a lot, but I'm not sure if I could handle a full hedge. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

5297 Goldfinger Potentilla, \$10.00

P. f. 'Katherine Dykes' 2-3' x 3-4' An old selection with large soft lemon-yellow blooms, each with a darker yellow center. Very nice. Blooms heavily but is never loud. Arching habit and silver-green foliage. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

5303 Katherine Dykes Potentilla, \$10.00

P. f. 'Primrose Beauty' 3x3' Faint yellow flowers with a slightly deeper yellow center and yellow stamens. From a distance the color appears creamy. This is a good choice if white is too white and the yellow cultivars are too garish. In groupings, it compliments white potentillas quite nicely and helps tame the "gold" cultivars. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

5314 Primrose Beauty Potentilla, \$10.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

***Rhododendron* spp. Rhododendrons and Azaleas** are members of the same enormous genus of some 600 species, native to many parts of the world. Many volumes have been written on both. Rhododendrons tend to bloom earlier than azaleas, usually in late April or early May in Maine. Azaleas bloom in late spring and early summer in Maine. Both require moist cool peaty humusy acid soil and partial sun. They do not like lime, do not like wind, and prefer the north and east sides of the house where they can keep out of the desiccating winter sun. They do not require pruning. Given the right spot, they can thrive for decades. We have a "PJM" we planted beside a large fir tree in about 1974. We've never done a thing to it. It still looks great.

R. 'Lollipop' Azalea 5-10' x same. Cross #106 ([*R. viscosum* x *R. cumberlandense*] x *R. arborescens*) Mezitt hybrid, Weston Nurseries intro, Hopkinton, MA, 1963. Also called **Weston's Lollipop**. Extremely fragrant azalea. Pink tubular funnel-shaped flowers each with a yellow blotch or "flare." Blooms in June in Maine. Bronze-green foliage becomes green with silver underneath and then red-orange in fall. Wide growth habit. Z4. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)

5324 Lollipop Azalea, \$16.00

R. 'Weston's Lemondrop' Azalea 6-12' x same. *R. viscosum* x unknown. Weston Nurseries introduction, Hopkinton, MA, 1975. Pale yellow flowering azalea with tubular 1 3/4" blooms. Fragrant and very late blooming. Semi-glossy dark green foliage. Quite hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)

5329 Weston's Lemondrop Azalea, \$16.00

R. 'Weston's Sparkler' Azalea 6-12' x same. *R. viscosum* x *R. arborescens*. Weston Nurseries introduction, Hopkinton, MA. Selected from Ed Mezitt's third-generation 1963 *viscosum* hybrids. Fragrant ruffle-edged 1 1/2-2" dark pink tubular flowers, flushed with white. Very late blooming. Round bluish-green foliage, light grey underside, turning purple-burgundy in fall. Upright and wide growing. Z4. **ME Grown.** (12-16" transplants)

5331 Weston's Sparkler Azalea, \$16.00

R. 'PJM Elite' Rhododendron 5-6' x 5-6'. *R. carolinianum* x *R. dauricum* var. *sempervirens*. Weston Nurseries intro, Hopkinton, MA, 1987. One of the later PJM hybrids from the Mezitt family. PJM honors Peter Mezitt who made the first cross in 1939 that resulted in the most famous of all rhododendrons. Later blooming and larger than most of the other selections, Elite's blooms are the deepest pink. Blooms about the same time as the forsythias in Maine. Z4. **ME Grown.** (12-16" transplants)

5337 PJM Elite Rhododendron, \$16.00



***Rhus aromatica* Fragrant Sumac**

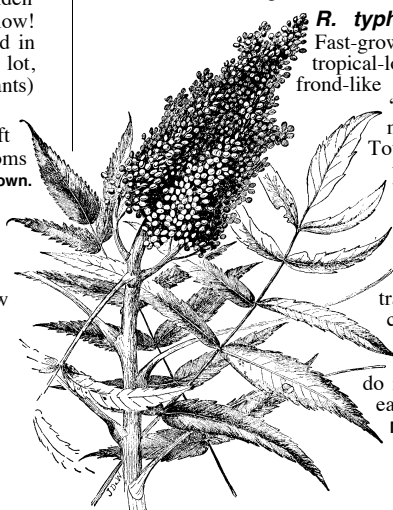
5-6' x 6-8' Low irregular fast-spreading shrub with glossy blue-green aromatic foliage. Suckers from the roots. Branches touching the ground will root themselves. Quickly produces a colony; thus, useful in erosion control on banks or hillsides. Beautiful small bright yellow flowers in spring. Leaves turn orange to brilliant scarlet in fall. Pubescent stems. Red hairy drupe-type fruit on females. Dioecious; these are unsexed plants. Easy to transplant, adaptable, prefers acid soil, sun to partial shade. No disease problems. Attracts birds and butterflies. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (9-15" transplants)

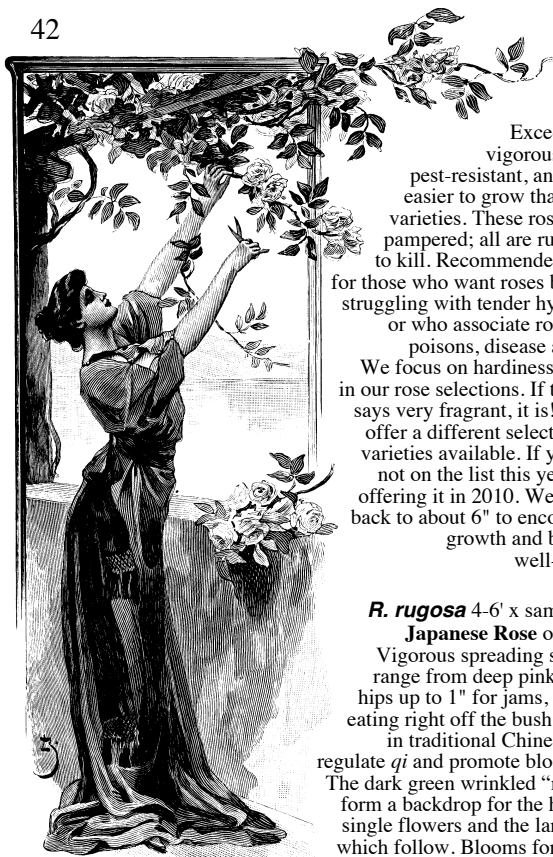
5342 Fragrant Sumac, \$10.00

***R. typhina* Staghorn Sumac**

15' x same. Fast-growing suckering spreading irregular exotic tropical-looking shrub or small tree with large frond-like compound foliage and amazing red fruit "plumes" that look like the kind of thing the marching band has on the front of their hats. Towards the end of July the plumes—stiff upright hairy panicles—begin to redden up. You can make "cranberry juice" from those plumes. Birds will feast on the fruit. Spectacular scarlet fall leaf color. Thrives in dry infertile soils. You'll most often find it growing along roadsides, railroad tracks or woodland edges. Tolerates soil compaction and everything else. Before you know it, you'll have a colony. This is a wonderful plant if you have room to let it do its thing. Sun to partial shade. Transplants easily. Native to eastern North America. Z2. **ME Grown.** (3-5' transplants)

5345 Staghorn Sumac, \$13.00





Rosa Rose

Exceedingly hardy, vigorous, disease- and pest-resistant, and significantly easier to grow than most named varieties. These roses need not be pampered; all are rugged and hard to kill. Recommended as a solution for those who want roses but are tired of struggling with tender hybrid tea roses, or who associate roses with pests, poisons, disease and winterkill. We focus on hardiness and fragrance in our rose selections. If the description says very fragrant, it is! Each year we offer a different selection of the best varieties available. If your favorite is not on the list this year, we may be offering it in 2010. We cut our plants back to about 6" to encourage optimal growth and bloom. (stocky well-rooted plants)

R. rugosa 4-6' x same. Also called **Japanese Rose** or **Beach Rose**. Vigorous spreading shrub. Flowers range from deep pink to white. Red hips up to 1" for jams, teas, and fresh eating right off the bush. Flowers used in traditional Chinese medicine to regulate *qi* and promote blood circulation. The dark green wrinkled "rugose" leaves form a backdrop for the highly fragrant single flowers and the large edible hips which follow. Blooms form on both old and new wood, so pruning is unnecessary except to control size. Prefers full sun and well-drained fertile soil with a pH

of 6-7, but will grow in depleted soil and even sand. Tolerates salt, pollution, and drought; practically care-free. Native to China and Japan, and a common sight all along the New England coast. Z2. **ME Grown.** (2-2TR 2-4)

5350 *Rosa rugosa*, bundle of 3, \$16.50

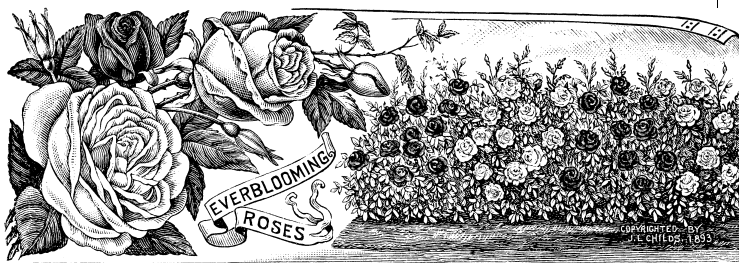
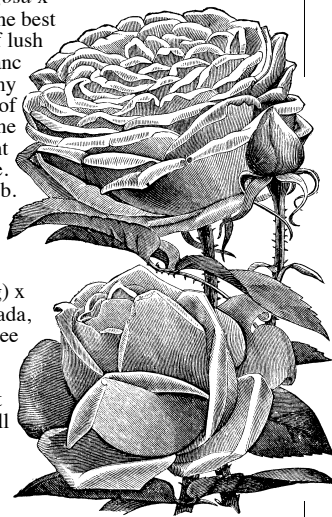
R. 'Blanc Double de Coubert' 5x4' *R. rugosa* x 'Sombreuil'. Cochet-Cochet, France, 1892. The best of the double whites with recurrent blooms of lush fragrance. Some doubles are fluffy, but Blanc Double's large (2½"-3") blossoms are creamy and substantial as if they were carved out of snow white ivory. Begins blooming in June with some recurrence thereafter. Infrequent hips. Attractive dark shiny green foliage. Good fall color. Healthy, open, vigorous shrub. Z3.

5369 *Blanc Double de Coubert* Rose, \$10.75

R. 'Champlain' 3x3' [(*R. kordesii* x seedling) x (Red Dawn x Suzanne)] Explorer Series, Canada, 1982. Low-growing compact bushy trouble-free shrub-type rose. Clusters of semi-double lightly fragrant 2-3" intense velvety nearly perfect red flowers with only the slightest hint of pink or purple. Outstanding in bloom. Small center of yellow stamens. Slightly wrinkled petals but never frilly. Will turn somewhat purply as they fade. Flowers appear in early July in central Maine and continue until hard frost. Put it where you can see it up close and personal.

We have it near the door out to the gazebo. It would get lost in a big garden somewhere across the yard. Named for the explorer Samuel de Champlain who is said to be the first European to cultivate roses in North America. Z4.

5389 *Champlain* Rose, \$10.75



Roses prefer full sun (at least 4-6 hrs per day) and a pH of 6.0-7.0. Space them 4-6' apart. They will do well in most well-drained soils with a good amount of organic matter. In locations with poor drainage, add gravel at the bottom of the planting hole, or build in drainage. Pick a site with good air drainage, but avoid sites with cold northwest winds. Avoid competition with tree roots.

Plant roses as early as soil can be worked. Most roses' roots don't spread beyond the original hole, so dig a bushel-sized hole, as deep as 2' or more. We recommend a bale of rotten hay in the bottom of the planting hole. Mix soil with liberal quantities of well-rotted manure and compost. Add a coffee-can full of rock phosphate or bone meal.

Soak in water overnight or up to three days before planting. Prior to planting, prune roses back to 3 canes, 4-5" tall. Plant them 1" below the level they were in the nursery. Add water as you fill in the hole to puddle it in. Mound soil around branches to prevent them from drying out, and to encourage buds to sprout. As the buds open, pull back the soil to the correct level.

Shrub roses and climbers will require little pruning in later years. Remove dead or broken branches, and periodically cut out the oldest wood. Keep them well mulched to retain moisture and reduce weeds. Add 2 shovelfuls of composted manure to each crown late in the fall. For more information see Suzanne Verrier's pamphlet *Growing Old-Fashioned Hardy Roses Organically*, available in the book section of our Seed Catalog.



R. 'Charles Albanel' 1-3' x 3-4' Souvenir de Philemon Cochet x seedling. Explorer Series, Canada, 1982. Very fragrant low-growing vigorous spreading dense ground cover. Also suitable for a low hedge. Mauve-reddish-pink blooms are 3-4" and semi-double (20 petals) with prominent yellow stamens. Blooms all summer. Dark-green foliage turns red-orange in fall. Hips are red-orange. Highly disease-resistant and extraordinarily hardy. Named in honor of the French explorer and Jesuit priest (1616-96) who split his time between English prisons and the Canadian interior during the later 17th century. Z2.

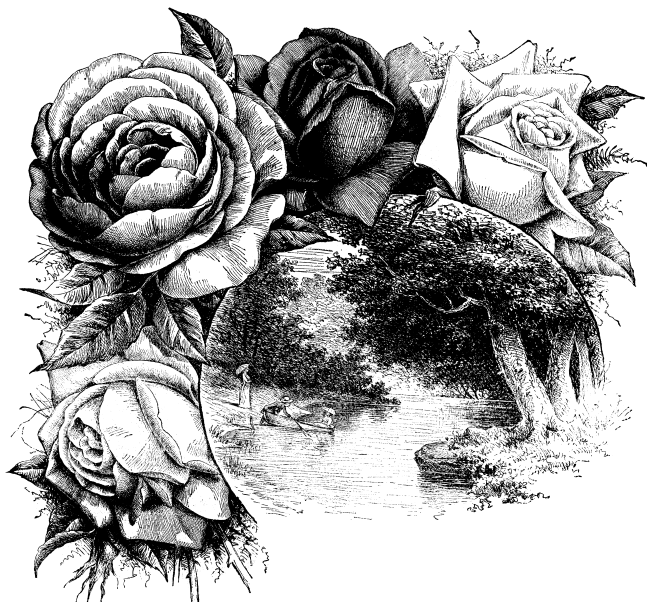
5394 *Charles Albanel* Rose, \$10.75

R. 'Henry Kelsey' 6-7' *R. kordesii* hybrid x seedling. Explorer Series, Ottawa, 1984. Hardy climbing or, more accurately, long-caned variety. Velvety-red semi-double (28 petals) 3" blooms with brilliant golden stamens. Similar to 'Champlain' although slightly larger and a slightly deeper red. Fades to deep rosy pink. Repeat bloomer said to have a spicy fragrance, although I don't find it especially fragrant. Shiny deep bluish-green foliage. Tie up the long arching canes to a trellis or arbor, or let them reach low across the garden. Branches can be left to overwinter with minimal (if any) winter damage. Mine survived -30° with no problem. Disease resistant. Z3. **ME Grown.**

5439 *Henry Kelsey* Rose, \$10.75

R. 'Magnifica' 4x5' *R. rugosa* x Ards Rover. Dr. Walter Van Fleet introduction, USA, 1905. Large clusters of 3-5" loose double deep fuchsia-purple-red flowers with showy bright golden stamens, spicy fragrance, and 30 petals per bloom. Dense shrub with large glossy dark-green foliage and a vigorous wide-spreading habit. Orange-red hips. Very disease-resistant. Walter Van Fleet (1858-1922) was a physician who dropped out of medicine at age 35 to follow his passion for plants. Twelve years later he introduced *Magnifica*, an unusual cross between a *rugosa* and Ards Rover (a fragrant red pillar rose from Ireland just introduced in 1898). From 1910 until his death, Van Fleet revelled as a breeder for the USDA. Z4.

5474 *Magnifica* Rose, \$10.75



R. 'Marie Bugnet' 3x3' [(Therese Bugnet x seedling) x F.J. Grootendorst] Bugnet, Canada, 1963. Lloyd Brace of the old Roseraie at Bayfields called Marie Bugnet "the best small white rose." The pure-white 3" double blooms are exceptionally fragrant. Plant it where you can smell it! Begins blooming early and continues until fall. New foliage is light green and matures to olive. Red stems are particularly attractive in winter. Disease resistant. Does not form hips. Pronounced Boo-nyay. Z3.

5479 Marie Bugnet Rose, \$10.75

R. 'Morden Blush' 3x3' [(Prairie Princess x Morden Amorette) x (Prairie Princess x (White Bouquet x (R. *arkansana* x Assiniboine)))] Parkland Series, Manitoba, Canada, 1988. Pointed ivory buds followed by a profusion of very double sweetly fragrant small creamy flowers blushed pink in the center. Blooms from early summer until frost. Low-growing form with glossy green foliage. Red-orange hips. Although Morden Blush looks something like a hybrid tea, don't be fooled; it's hardy to Zone 3 or even Z2. ME Grown.

5488 Morden Blush Rose, \$10.75

R. 'Morden Sunrise' 3x3' Sunsprite x unnamed seedling. Parkland Series, Manitoba, Canada, 2000. Yellow-orange buds open to semi-double multi-colored flowers, each one a deep rich yellow in the center fading into orange and then into pink at the blossom edge. This is a rose on fire. If you like yellow and orange, you will not be disappointed. The colors are strong and vibrant. As the fragrant flowers mature they fade to a creamy yellow white. The low-growing shrub blooms all summer on canes that turn reddish brown in winter. Shows minor dieback some winters but then recovers nicely and blooms profusely. Resistant to blackspot. Z3/4.

5493 Morden Sunrise Rose, \$10.75



R. 'The Fairy' 2-2 1/2' x same. Paul Crampel x Lady Gay. JA Bentall, England 1932. Polyantha rose with small frilly double pastel pink flowers that bloom all summer in large pendulous clusters. There are so many petals packed into each bloom you'd never know there are stamens hiding in there. Low growing graceful spreading plant. Tolerates poor soils and neglect. Disease-free foliage. We were overwhelmed with the rose's popularity in '08. Apologies to those who did not receive plants last year. This year we have an ample supply. Z4. ME Grown.

5533 The Fairy Rose, \$10.75

R. 'Therese Bugnet' 6x4' [(R. *acicularis* x R. *kamtschatica*) x R. *amblyotis* x (R. *rugosa plena* (x Betty Bland))] Alberta, Canada, 1950. Vigorous upright vase-shaped plant. Extremely fragrant large 3-4" double, soft lilac-pink flowers have an informal "old rose" look. Blooms in late spring and fall with some repeats all summer. One of the first rugosa-types to bloom each year. Long narrow grey-green foliage turns red in fall. Red canes look particularly beautiful in the snow. Disease resistant. If you can plant only one rose, plant Therese Bugnet. It is incredibly rugged and utterly dependable. What a rose! It will not disappoint you. Z3. ME Grown.

5534 Therese Bugnet Rose, \$10.75

Salix gracilistyla 'Melanostachys' Black Pussy Willow

6-10' x same. Very attractive fast-growing plant for wetland areas. Deep purple-black male catkins in early spring, suitable for the dining table or kitchen windowsill. The rather short foliage emerges orange and then turns a deep green. Stems assume a rich purple-black color in winter. Very nice dark colors all year. Winner of Royal Horticulture Society Award of Garden Merit. Prune in summer or fall. Full sun, prefers moist soils, pH adaptable but does not like shallow chalky soils. Native to eastern Asia. Z4. ME Grown. (12-18" transplants)

5568 Black Pussy Willow, \$9.50



S. purpurea 'Nana' Blue Leaf Arctic Willow

3-5 x 3-6' Selection of purple osier willow. Medium-sized spreading shrub with small narrow blue foliage (actually greenish above and blue beneath) and delicate thin long red or green stems. This is the "angel hair" of willows. The graceful thin stems sucker, layer and form a thick and highly attractive ornamental mass. Long cultivated and used for fine-textured basket-making. Excellent bank or hedge plant, especially in wet areas but also quite suitable for a highly visible location. I've seen it used in a perennial bed; it looked great. If it gets too overgrown, cut it to the ground every couple of years and it'll come right back. Native from Europe to North Africa to Japan. Z3. ME Grown. (12-18" transplants)

5577 Blue Leaf Arctic Willow, \$9.50

Sambucus nigra 'Gerda' Black Beauty Elder

10' x 10-15' Ken Tobutt and Jacqui Prevett introduction, Horticultural Research International, East Malling, England, c. 2000. A giant step forward in the search for the true black-leaved elder. Black Beauty holds its glossy dark purple-black color all summer. The foliage is a real eye-opener. Also stunning in bloom.



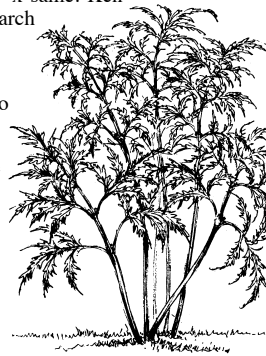
Hundreds of small pink buds expand and then open in early summer into 10" cymes of tiny pink star-like flowers with a lovely citrusy fragrance. Large clusters of black berries mature in late summer attracting the birds, the jelly-makers, and the wine-makers alike. Prefers moist and well-drained soil but can handle drought conditions. Best color in full sun. Suckering habit—let it spread or cut it back to the ground every few years. Z4. ME Grown. (12-18" transplants)

5589 Black Beauty Elder, \$16.50

S. n. 'Eva' Black Lace Elderberry

8-10' x same. Ken Tobutt introduction, East Malling Research Institute, Kent, England. Highly ornamental long-branched multistemmed rounded shrub with deeply incised lacy Japanese maple-like black foliage with rich green undertones. Also beautiful in bloom. Pink buds open to 6" white flowers in late spring. Black fall fruit. Not attractive to deer. Will thrive in the same conditions as our native elderberry. Moist soils, full sun to partial shade. Native to Europe, northern Africa and western Asia. Z4/5. ME Grown. (12-18" transplants)

5592 Black Lace Elder, \$16.50

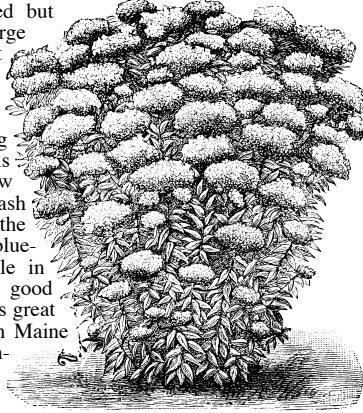


ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Spiraea Spirea includes nearly 100 species of deciduous shrubs native to the northern hemisphere, all with profuse and often very showy small white, pink or red flowers, arranged in flat or round clusters or in pyramidal spikes. Varying in form and size, spireas are very adaptable, thriving in most soils with a full to partially sunny exposure and average moisture. Two well-known natives are Meadowsweet (*S. latifolia*) and Hardhack (*S. tomentosa*). Spring-flowering species bloom on last season's growth. Prune some of the growth in early spring to increase the flower cluster size. The summer-flowering species bloom on this year's growth and usually require no pruning at all. Each year we offer a few of our favorite spireas, varying our selection annually.

S. x bumalda 'Anthony Waterer' 4x6' A

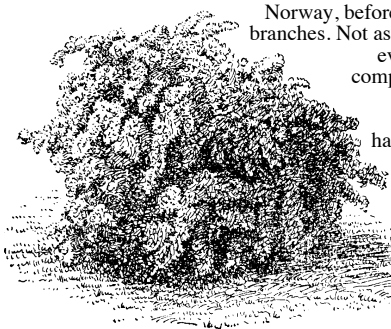
chest-high rather dense rounded but irregular shrub covered with large intricate 4-6" flat-topped vibrant carmine-pink blooms each bristling with a thousand tiny stamens. The best of the larger pink-flowering spireas. In spring and summer the whole plant is also tipped with attractive new ruddy-pink leaves that neither clash with nor obscure the bloom. As the foliage matures it becomes blue-green and finally reddish-purple in the fall. Suckering makes it a good hedge and bank plant. Also looks great in the garden. Noted up here in Maine where its long bloom season benefits from our cooler weather. Tolerates all but wet soils. Prefers full sun. Z4. (9-18" transplants)



5617 Anthony Waterer Spirea, \$12.00

S. x cinerea 'Grefsheim' 4-5' x same. (*S. cana* x *S. hypericifolia*)

Norway, before 1884. Dense shrub with arching branches. Not as large as 'Vanhoutte' and flowers even earlier. The leafless stems are completely covered with white flower clusters in spring. According to Michael Dirr, it is "about as handsome an early flowering spirea as one could hope to find." When the fine light feathery foliage appears, it is small and a soft blue-green. Will thrive in any good soil with plenty of moisture. Z4. (18-24" transplants)



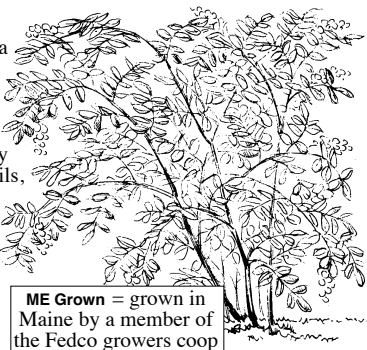
5634 Grefsheim Spirea, \$12.00

S. japonica 'Lemon Princess' 1 1/2-2 x 2' There seems to be an endless succession of low-growing "yellow"-leafed spireas. All of these diminutive creations are more or less mounded and pink-flowering. The flowers can be nice, but the foliage color is the draw. Most are really light green, not actually yellow. Lemon Princess is bright golden yellow (with a little green thrown in). Very small pink flowers. Suited to the rock wall, or the walkway where you'd like to see that touch of yellow all summer. Prefers well-drained moist loamy soils but quite adaptable. Sun or partial shade. Z4. ME Grown. (16-24" transplants)

5662 Lemon Princess Spirea, \$12.00

Symphoricarpos albus White Snowberry 5-6' x same. Also called **Common Snowberry** or **Waxberry**. Broad rounded arching spreading long-stemmed wildlife shrub. Medium-small ripple-edged foliage of muted multi-shaded blues and greens. The edge of each leaf is unique, a bit like sassafras in that respect. Quite beautiful all summer. Excellent for holding soil on a steep shady moist bank and providing good wildlife cover and forage at the same time. Will spread with age and eventually form colonies. Mine has thrived for years in a corner at the back of the house in a hodgepodge of ferns, raspberries and a looming lilac; it's just now beginning to spread. Inconspicuous pinkish flowers in late spring, followed by plump 1/2" whitish berries which persist until the birds get them. Easy to transplant, adaptable to most soils, sun or shade, even clay and city conditions. Drought tolerant. Native eastern U.S. south to Virginia. Z3. ME Grown. (18-24" transplants)

5720 White Snowberry, \$9.00



ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Syringa Lilac is known nearly everywhere by some variation of the Persian word *lilak* (meaning 'bluish'), but lilacs actually range from brilliant white to pink to red to every conceivable shade of purple and even blue. From small shrubs to large shrubs and trees, compact vase-shaped specimens to huge rounded spreading masses, only the crabapple offers a greater selection among ornamental woody plants. Twenty-three species make up the genus *Syringa*, two of which are native to the limestone mountains of southeastern Europe, while the rest are native to the temperate Far East. First brought to America nearly four hundred years ago by French Jesuit missionaries, there are ancient specimens on Michigan's Mackinac Islands with trunks nearly two feet in diameter.

Lilacs are excellent alone or in hedges. Deep green glossy heart-shaped foliage looks good from spring through fall. Intensely fragrant blooms in May over a period of several weeks.

As with roses and crabapples, we vary our list each year to give you a wide selection. If you have suggestions for cultivars you'd like us to offer, please let us know. The Lyle Littlefield Garden remains the best place in Maine to see lilacs in bloom. If words can't do it for you, go up to Orono next May or take a trip down to the Arnold Arboretum just outside Boston for the world-famous Lilac Sunday. See #4912, p. 34, for Tree Lilac. (large 2-3 year old transplants)

S. chinensis 'Lilac Sunday'

10x12' Seed from Beijing Botanic Garden, Arnold Arboretum Introduction, 1997.

Lilac Sunday is the huge annual May celebration of lilacs at the Arnold Arboretum in Boston. It's a lot of lilacs, a lot of people and a lot of fun. Go.

'Lilac Sunday' is also a recent lilac introduction from the arboretum. The flowers are delicately fragrant, single and pale purple. In the sun they have a dazzling white frosted quality to the upper surfaces of the panicles. They also bloom all along the sides and tips of each branch, creating an amazing plume-like effect. It's a

shrub covered with flowers. We've been looking forward to offering this lilac since the day we first saw it at...Lilac Sunday! Z3. ME Grown.

5728 Lilac Sunday Lilac, \$13.50

S. x prestoniae 'Agnes Smith' 8' x 6-10' 'James Macfarlane' x unknown. Dr. Owen Rogers introduction, UNH, 1970. Very large single white flowers bloom a week or two after Common Purple and other *vulgaris* lilacs. Chosen as "Best Plant Introduction" by the International Propagators Society in 1973. Non-suckering upright form suitable for a small multistemmed tree, tall screen or tall hedge. Select 3-5 stems and let it go. Foliage is twice as large and far more elliptical than the *vulgaris* types. A modern addition to the late-blooming extremely hardy "Preston Hybrids." These hybrids were originally developed in the 1920s by English breeder Isabella Preston, who worked for many years at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa. Z2. ME Grown.

5779 Agnes Smith Lilac, \$13.50

S. x prestoniae 'James MacFarlane' 8-10' x 6-8' *S. x josiflexa* 'Royalty' x unknown. Albert F. Yaeger introduction, UNH, 1959. Truly pink single flowers have a pleasant fragrance that always surprises me wafting across the yard a couple of weeks after the *vulgaris* lilacs are gone by. Non-suckering upright form with the typical *prestoniae* long elliptical foliage. Like 'Agnes Smith', well-suited as a small stand-alone multistemmed tree, screen or hedge. Will not sucker. Extremely hardy. Named for a beloved longtime UNH greenhouse manager. Z2. ME Grown.

5785 James MacFarlane Lilac, \$13.50

S. vulgaris Common Purple 12-15' x same. A mass of medium-light purple blooms every year. A magnificent New England sight for nearly 400 years. When a nursery friend looked out my living room window and thought I had some fancy new cultivar, I chuckled, "Nope, just the good old common purple." Never a disappointment. Suckers freely, the best lilac for a spreading hedge. Z2. ME Grown.

5801 Common Purple Lilac, \$13.50

S. v. 'Albert F Holden' 7x8' 'Sarah Sands' x 'Reaumur'. John Fiala introduction, 1981. Deep purple buds followed by fragrant showy two-toned blooms: deep blue-purple backed by a light silver-lilac reverse. Each floret looks edged in silver. From a distance the entire upright rounded shrub with its loosely open panicles appears to shimmer in the sun. Unusual and exceptionally nice. Named for a member of one of America's great horticultural families who founded the Holden Arboretum in Kirtland, OH. Z3. ME Grown.

5805 Albert Holden Lilac, \$13.50

Lilacs are adaptable, easy to grow and practically maintenance-free. Plant them in a well-drained location in moderately rich soil. Sandy gravelly loam is perfect. They prefer sun at least two-thirds of the day. We suggest planting them with a shovelful of lime. Add another shovelful of lime every three years. A yearly mulch of manure or compost will encourage spectacular annual blooming.

How to Prune Lilacs

As the plant matures, prune off a quarter of the new suckers and oldest growth, a few main stems each year, and keep them trimmed down to an attractive height. No need to cut off spent flowers, but for best appearance remove flower heads as soon as through blooming, using care not to injure closest pair of leafy branches.

S. v. 'Frederick Law Olmsted' 9x8' 'Rochester' x 'Rochester'. Richard Fennichia introduction, 1988. Small pure-white florets on large fat panicles combine to form huge clusters that contrast strikingly with the dark green foliage. When blooming, the well-rounded compact shrub appears to be covered with large fluffs of white soapsuds. The comment in my notebook was: "Wow." Olmsted was the first great American landscape architect. He designed Central Park and the Arnold Arboretum, among other things! Z3/4. **ME Grown.**

5831 Frederick Law Olmsted Lilac, \$13.50

S. v. 'Katherine Havemeyer' 10-12' x 10' Victor Lemoine et Fils, Nancy, France, 1922. Fragrant large heavy densely filled double lavender-pink flower clusters. Decidedly more lavender and less pink than 'Atheline Wilbur'. I'd call it pinkish purple. The darker buds create a two-toned effect. Very beautiful. Large long leaves contrast vividly with the blossoms. Roger Coggeshall, who has been propagating lilacs for several decades at the Arnold Arboretum and Syringa Plus in Massachusetts, called 'Katherine Havemeyer' one of his favorites. Z3. **ME Grown.**

5835 Katherine Havemeyer Lilac, \$13.50

S. v. 'Michel Buchner' 8-10' x same. Victor Lemoine et Fils, Nancy, France, 1885. Large showy double-flowering lavender "lilac-colored" panicles. Very fragrant. One of the first of the double (multi-petaled) lilacs. On the Arnold Arboretum's list of the "20 Best Lilacs for New England Gardens." Developed by Victor and Mme Lemoine by crossing an insignificant double *vulgaris* 'Azurea Plena' with the best singles of the day. The results of that cross were themselves crossed with other singles. From that second generation came the first of the famous "French Hybrids" including 'Michel Buchner' and 'President Grevy' the following year. Z3. **ME Grown.**

5848 Michel Buchner Lilac, \$13.50

S. v. 'Monge' 10-12' x 8-12' Victor Lemoine et Fils, Nancy, France, 1913. Large broad clusters of outstanding showy single silvery dark red-purple blooms. Medium-sized slightly flattish panicles, two or three per cluster. Open upright rounded form. Although Gaspard Monge (1746-1818) had no knowledge of his namesake, he was the originator of descriptive geometry, an initiator of the modern metric system, a good friend of Napoleon Bonaparte and, evidently, an inspiration to the revered lilac breeder Victor Lemoine. 'Monge' is considered one of Lemoine's finest introductions. Z3. **ME Grown.**

5856 Monge Lilac, \$13.50

S. v. 'Wedgwood Blue' 6x8' 'Rochester' x 'Mrs. August Belmont'. John Fiala introduction, Ohio, 1981. Although the name lilac means 'bluish' in Persian, and the native lilacs of Romania and Serbia have blue genes, so to speak, finding a true blue lilac has been a difficult task. 'President Lincoln', 'President Grevy' and other old standard "blue" cultivars are clearly bluish, but none of them clearly has the BLUES. 'Wedgwood Blue' is a big step in the right direction. It also has pink buds which precede its large beautiful hanging blue blooms. Very showy with a fine fragrance. Upright form. Somewhat more modest in stature than other lilacs. Z3. **ME Grown.**

5897 Wedgwood Blue Lilac, \$13.50



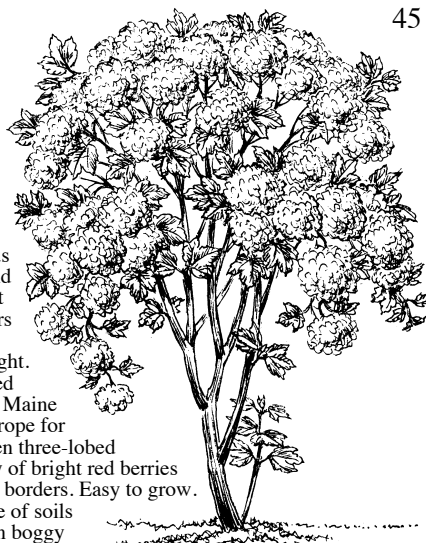
Viburnum opulus **'Roseum' Common** **Snowball Viburnum,** **Guelder Rose or** **European Snowball**

10-12' x same. Extremely showy large double snowball-like white flowers cover the vigorous shrub in spring and remind you how glad you are that winter is really over. Bears profusely enough to have one heck of a snowball fight. Large coarse old-fashioned rounded habit, popular in Maine for generations and in Europe for over 400 years. Dark green three-lobed maple-like foliage. Plenty of bright red berries for the birds. Excellent in borders. Easy to grow.

Adaptable to a wide range of soils but happy in wet and even boggy spots. Flowers best in full sun.

Susceptible to viburnum leaf beetle. Native to Europe, North Africa and northern Asia. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

5940 Snowball Viburnum, \$13.00



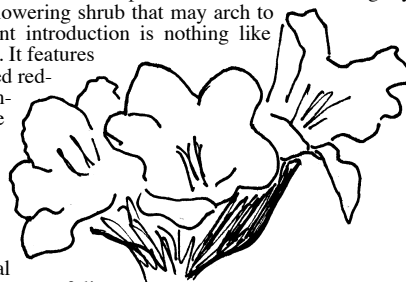
Weigela florida 'Courtalor' Carnival Weigela 4-5' x 3-5'

Tetraploid hybrid, France. Compact dense rounded slightly vase-shaped summer-flowering shrub that may arch to the ground. This recent introduction is nothing like any other Weigela. It features

amazing multicolored red-pink-white tubular funnel-shaped azelea-like flowers. The whiter blossoms are edged in pink. Blooms for a month in late spring and early summer. The more sun, the more bloom.

Will attract all the local hummingbirds. Forest-green foliage with yellow fall color. Excellent in borders and in groups but best as a specimen. Prune after it blooms. Prefers well-drained soil but thrives in most conditions, urban or rural. Genus native to eastern Asia. Z4 maybe Z3. (6-12" transplants)

5958 Carnival Weigela, \$10.50



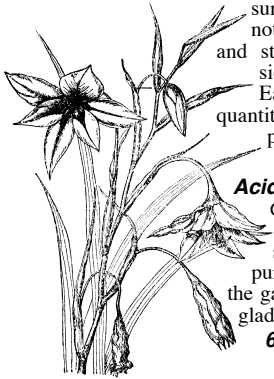
Wisteria macrostachya 'Aunt Dee' Wisteria up to 50' (Species also called **Kentucky Wisteria**.) Magnificent twining vine with pinnate leaves for pillars, trellises, arbors, walls, even trees. Long 12" racemes of lightly fragrant lilac-purple flowers in late spring or early summer look almost like bunches of lavender grapes. Bean-like smooth green seed pods to 4" long. It can be tricky to get them to bloom in northern districts. We recommend light sandy soils, plenty of water and full sun. Excessively fertile soil may result in a lot of foliage and not many flowers. We recommend pruning one third of the growth each winter to encourage bloom. Vines can be quite powerful, so provide a very sturdy structure. Native of southeastern U.S. May need protection in Zone 4 but has even been known to flower in Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-yr. medium vines)

5985 Aunt Dee Wisteria, \$11.00

ME Grown = grown in
Maine by a member of
the Fedco growers coop

Tender Summer Bulbs are like fall-planted bulbs in that they give you an impressive floral display for comparatively little effort.

Bulbs, corms and tubers store their energy which needs only some earth, moisture and sun to be released. Unlike fall bulbs, they are not hardy in our climate. Energetic people lift and store them over the winter (details in the sidebar); the rest of us treat them as annuals. Each selection is offered in three different quantities; note the different item number for each package size.



Acidanthera murielae **Fragrant Gladiolus** or **Ethiopian Gladiolus** produces sword-like foliage topped by wonderfully scented star-shaped 2" white flowers with mahogany-purple centers on arching stems. Beautiful in the garden or as a cutflower. 24" tall. Culture like gladiolus.

6011: 10/\$3.25;

6012: 20/\$5.25;

6013: 50/\$12.50

Anemone coronaria **De Caen mix** **Anemone** or **Windflower** Charming single flowers 1-3" wide are dark purple-blue, red, rose or white and appear in early summer. Good for borders, containers and cutting. 8-10" tall. Soak knobby tubers in water 24 hours before early-spring planting 1-2" deep, 4-8" apart. Anemones enjoy full sun and light sandy soil but must be kept moist during the growing season.

6021: 10/\$3.50;

6022: 20/\$6.00;

6023: 50/\$13.00



Begonia x tuberhybrida **Tuberous Begonia** Lush textures, intense colors and a tropical aura make this tender temperamental plant well worth cultivating. Velvety flowers bloom all summer, drooping languidly amidst red-tinted foliage. Excellent bedding or container plants. Best in a cool spot with lots of indirect sunlight and air circulation. The books say moist but not soggy fertile soil. I think they *love* moisture. I drench mine every day, feed heavily and stand back to ooh and ah! Plant tubers outside, concave side up, 1/2-1" deep and 12-15" apart when night temperatures rise above 50°. For a longer season, start indoors and plant out later. Pinch back to encourage more blooms. These are Multiflora types, 12" tall. Big 2 1/2" tubers.

Orange Camellia

6031: 2/\$5.75;

6032: 4/\$10.50;

6033: 6/\$14.00

Dark Red Camellia

6041: 2/\$5.75;

6042: 4/\$10.50;

6043: 6/\$14.00



Tender Summer Bulbs

In our climate, these tender spring-planted summer-blooming bulbs, corms and tubers will not survive the winter outdoors. To save them for next year, dig them up in the fall after the foliage dies, gently brush off any soil and debris, and dry them. Store somewhere dark and cool (40-50°) in dry peat or sawdust, then replant in spring. You can also grow them in pots and relocate as the weather dictates. Alternatively, treat them as annuals and compost them at the end of the season.



Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora 'Lucifer' glows in the garden or makes a long-lasting cutflower. Midsummer sprays of bright red flowers opening from bottom to top on curving flower stalks look like bursts of flame above their gladiolus-like foliage. "Lucifer" means "light-bearing" and refers to the blossoms' resemblance to lighted matches. Grows well in pots. 24-36" tall. Plant 3" deep, 3" apart in moist well-drained soil.

6051: 5/\$4.00;

6052: 15/\$9.50;

6053: 30/\$17.00

Dahlia Bushy bedding plant and prolific cutflower producer blooms from midsummer until frost. Native to hot parts of the Americas and first developed as a food crop, ornamental dahlias are descended from years of breeding and hybridizing *D. pinnata* and *D. juarezi*. Earl Waterman grew this year's stock either at his Roadtown Dahlia Patch in Shutesbury, MA, or his new auxiliary patch in Amherst. These are large tubers.

D. Peter's Purple Tall 4' bushy plants with 5" light purple flowers, good as specimens. Long straight stems for cuts. "Spectacular, impressive eye-bender," says our modest grower.

6061: 1/\$3.00;

6062: 3/\$7.75;

6063: 6/\$14.00

D. Spartacus Very dark maroon 4-5" flowers, excellent for cuts, on big strong 4' tall plants.

6071: 1/\$3.00;

6072: 3/\$7.75;

6073: 6/\$14.00

D. Earl's Medium Mix Earl assures us that this mix "will not disappoint" and "if you like bicolors, then you will like the choices." Lots of good sturdy plants that will work in a rock garden or border. Flowers run around 4-5" on plants ranging 2-3' tall.

6081: 2/\$4.90;

6082: 4/\$9.00;

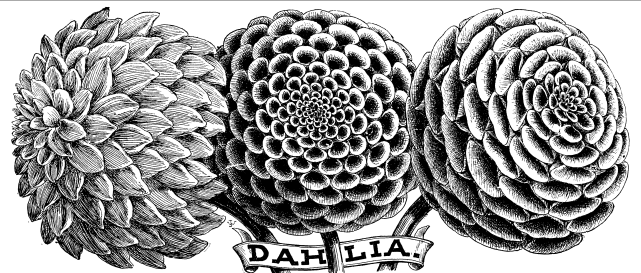
6083: 8/\$16.00

D. Earl's Tall Mix As popular as ever in its eleventh (how time flies!) year on our list, includes pink, yellow, light purple, white, red and dark red 3-6" flowers, pompon and decorative (standard) styles. Plants 2-4' tall.

6091: 2/\$4.90;

6092: 4/\$9.00;

6093: 8/\$16.00



Dahlia Grows best with 3-4 hours of direct sun per day, but will tolerate conditions from full sun to light shade. Plant 3-4" deep, 12-24" apart. Conventional wisdom says to plant after danger of frost is past, but our grower in Massachusetts plants his the same time as his peas. He believes early planting is important and says the plants will recover if the first foliage is killed by frost. Dahlias often need staking, but close plantings can support each other. Because dahlia blooms are susceptible to insect damage, especially in the bud stage, think out a control program ahead of time. Watch out for tarnish bugs, leaf hoppers and thrips. Frequently picking the flowers keeps some pests down.



Gladiolus Sword Lily Showy summer bloomer excels as a cutflower. Each 36" tall stalk is covered with 10 or more open funnel-shaped flowers that bloom from bottom to top. Named for their sword-like leaves; a *gladiolus* was a small Roman sword. Gladiolus bulbs are 1½" and up.

G. 'Blue Tropic' deep lavender.

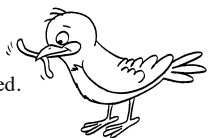
6101: 10/\$3.90;
6102: 20/\$6.75;
6103: 50/\$14.75

G. 'Carmello' rich golden-orange, very bright and showy.

6111: 10/\$3.90;
6112: 20/\$6.75;
6113: 50/\$14.75

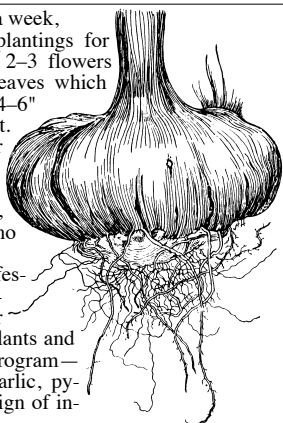
G. 'Early Bird' light shell-pink, somewhat ruffled.

6121: 10/\$3.90;
6122: 20/\$6.75;
6123: 50/\$14.75



Gladiolus Each stalk blooms for about a week, about 8 weeks after planting. Stagger plantings for flowers from summer to frost. Cut when 2-3 flowers have opened, taking care to spare the leaves which feed the developing corm. Plant corms 4-6" deep and 6" apart after the last spring frost. Hilling or staking may be needed if their sword-shaped foliage and 3-4' flower spikes get top heavy. Dig up the corms after the tops have died, discard the old one, clean the new one, dry, and store loose (no peat) in a cool dry place.

Thrips are a problem for glads, and infestations—indicated by yellowing and spotted foliage—are aggravated by water stress. Be prepared lest they harm your plants and prevent flowering. Consider a control program—possibilities include insecticidal soap, garlic, pyrethrum or rotenone—to use at the first sign of infestation.



G. 'Nori' violet-blue with prominent cream accent.

6131: 10/\$3.90;
6132: 20/\$6.75;
6133: 50/\$14.75

G. 'Oscar' fire engine red.

6141: 10/\$3.90;
6142: 20/\$6.75;
6143: 50/\$14.75

G. 'Raven' dark red with a suggestion of black.

6151: 10/\$3.90;
6152: 20/\$6.75;
6153: 50/\$14.75

G. 'Rose Supreme' peachy rose with lighter highlights.

6161: 10/\$3.90;
6162: 20/\$6.75;
6163: 50/\$14.75

G. 'White Prosperity' bright white, ruffled.

6171: 10/\$3.90;
6172: 20/\$6.75;
6173: 50/\$14.75

Large-Flowering

Glad Mix

6181: 10/\$3.00;
6182: 20/\$5.00;
6183: 50/\$10.75

Nanus Glad Mix

miniature, mixed colors, many bicolors and butterfly-types, 24" tall. They're darling! Very satisfying clumped in a bed or as cuts. Some suppliers offer these as Hardy Glads, supposed to be hardy in Zone 5. I would not count on this unless you expect the kind of snow cover we had last winter.

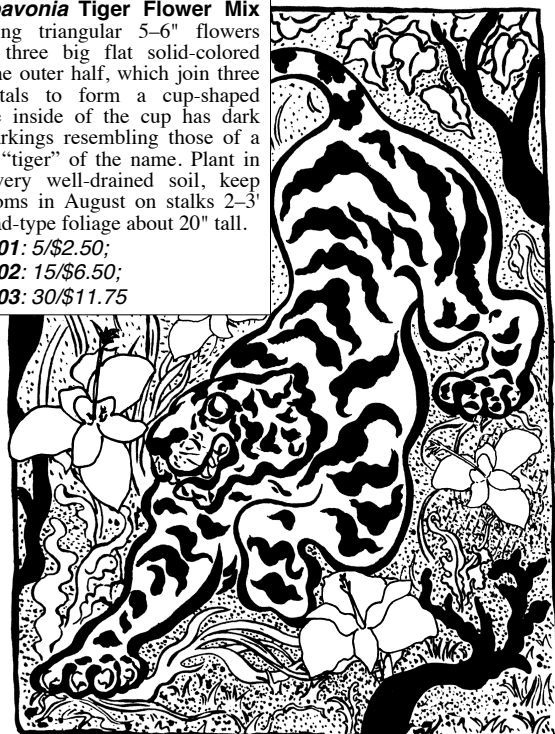
6191: 10/\$5.00;
6192: 20/\$8.50;
6193: 50/\$18.75



Tigridia pavonia Tiger Flower Mix

Neat looking triangular 5-6" flowers consist of three big flat solid-colored petals on the outer half, which join three smaller petals to form a cup-shaped center. The inside of the cup has dark mottled markings resembling those of a jaguar, the "tiger" of the name. Plant in full sun, very well-drained soil, keep moist. Blooms in August on stalks 2-3' tall with glad-type foliage about 20" tall.

6201: 5/\$2.50;
6202: 15/\$6.50;
6203: 30/\$11.75



Herbaceous Perennial Plants Most of the perennial plants we offer are hardy at least into Zone 4. USDA hardiness zone (chart on page 3) follows each description. See sidebar below for planting instructions. The list is alphabetized by botanical names, in italics, followed by common names. Each selection is offered in three different quantities; note the different item number for each package size.

***Achillea millefolium* 'Terra Cotta' Yarrow** *Terra Cotta* means 'baked earth' and that bright clay-flower-pot color predominates in this mix. All the dusky shades—coral, apricot, yellow and gold—evoke the Southwest. Yarrow tolerates most conditions, is untroubled by pests and is a stand-out in heat and drought. Long-lasting 3-4" flat-topped clusters of tiny flowers, corymbs, bloom from late June into August and attract butterflies. Excellent for fresh or dried arrangements. Silvery-grey foliage is finely cut and very good-looking. 18-36" tall, plant 12-24" apart in full sun, well-drained soil. Z3.

6251: 1/\$2.90;
6252: 3/\$7.00;
6253: 6/\$12.00

See #7031 on page 56 for medicinal white yarrow.

***Aconitum napellus* English Monkshood or Friar's Cap** produces dense showy spikes of deep violet-blue helmet-shaped flowers above elegant palmate foliage in late summer. Plant in a partially shaded, cool and moist location for longest-lasting flowers. An excellent cutflower—cut when 1/3 to 1/2 the spike is in bloom. Grand delphinium-style blooms rarely need staking. I love watching bumble bees climb under the hood and completely disappear into the flowers then clamber back out again covered with pollen. The entire plant is poisonous; wash your hands after handling or cutting. 36-40" tall. Plant 15-20" apart in moist soil. Z3.

6261: 1/\$2.90;
6262: 3/\$7.00;
6263: 6/\$11.50

***Alcea rosea* Hollyhock 'Chater's Double' Mix** Our offering this year illustrates the meaning of **fully double** in garden-talk. While single flowers have, yes, a single row of petals around their centers, doubles have *many* rows of petals. A fully double flower is the most extravagant, being totally filled with petals. Chater's Double provide a spectacular excess of bloom, with its assortment of large fully double hemispherical flowers in mixed colors.

Self-sowing staple of old-fashioned gardens, hollyhocks produce tall spires of covered with flowers for extended bloom through July and August. Their colors range from white through the pinks into rose and maroon with an occasional yellow or salmon. Officially perennial, they can be short-lived, and are best cultivated as a biennials which readily self-sow once established in favorable conditions. Like full sun. 4-6' tall. Wind protection or staking is essential. Plant 12-18" apart in moist well-drained soil. Z3.

6271: 1/\$3.00;
6272: 3/\$7.50;
6273: 6/\$12.00

Aquilegia Columbine In early spring round-lobed leaves emerge as little stacks which unfurl prettily when little else is green. Not long after, flowers dance above the foliage on vertical stems displaying their characteristic prominent five spurs. Good for a cutting garden or border. Foliage dwindles in summer heat to make room for late-bloomers. Tolerates full sun but prefers partial shade which prolongs the flowering season. Plant in light soil with adequate humus, moisture and drainage. Z3.



***A. canadensis* Wild Columbine** Spurred red flowers are highlighted by noticeable bright yellow stamens which hang below the petals and "give a jewel-like effect," as Marilyn Dwellley says in her *Spring Wildflowers of New England*. Self-sows in my dooryard and brightens our springs. 12-24" tall, plant 8-12" apart. Nursery propagated.

6281: 1/\$4.00;
6282: 3/\$10.25;
6283: 6/\$18.00

A. 'McKana Giants' The McKana strain variously called 'Giants' or 'Hybrids', an old British hybrid of uncertain parentage, combines the delights of the wild columbine habit with big flowers sporting long spurs and a bright bold assortment of colors, including bicolors. Both flowers and blooming period last longer than wild columbines. Excellent for cutting. Plant 12-18" apart. 24-30" tall.

6291: 1/\$3.25;
6292: 3/\$8.00;
6293: 6/\$13.00

***Arisaema triphyllum* Jack-in-the-Pulpit** In midspring one or two compound leaves emerge close to the ground, each with three leaflets framing an upright stem topped by a tannish-purple 3" long cuplike spathe (the pulpit) which contains and arches over the erect greenish-yellow spadix (Jack). It's a great pleasure, one I still remember, for the two- or three-year-old set to lift the flap and see Jack. Native Americans used the dried root medicinally, but calcium oxalate crystals in the fresh plant are intensely irritating. Easy to grow in moist woody soil with plenty of humus and shade. Wildflower native to the eastern U.S. About 12" tall. Nursery propagated. Z4.



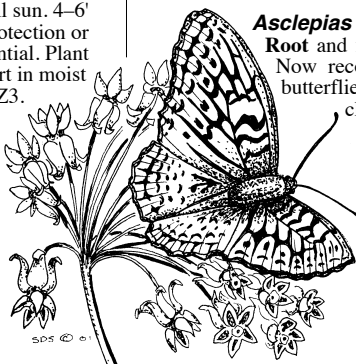
6301: 1/\$3.50;
6302: 3/\$8.00;
6303: 6/\$14.25

***Artemisia dracuncululus* var. *sativa* 'Tarragon' French Tarragon** really is culinary tarragon, the flavoring with a hint of anise well known for its use with vinegar, salads, poultry and fish. Bushy, with long narrow grey-green leaves, looks like a small shrub. Mine provided years of trouble-free performance and culinary pizzazz. 18-40" tall. Easy to grow, especially in poor dry soil, full sun. Needs good drainage. Some use a winter mulch. Z4.

6311: 1/\$4.25;
6312: 3/\$10.50;
6313: 6/\$19.00

***Asclepias tuberosa* Butterfly Weed** Also known as **Pleurisy Root** and formerly used by American natives for lung trouble. Now recognized as an ornamental native plant that attracts butterflies and provides bright tangerine-orange flowers in 5" clusters from midsummer into fall. May be difficult to establish because it has a fleshy taproot that demands well-drained fertile sandy soil and does not like to be disturbed. Breaks dormancy late but, once established, very rugged and easy to care for. 24" tall, plant 18-24" apart in full sun. Z4.

6321: 1/\$4.00;
6322: 3/\$10.50;
6323: 6/\$19.00



Bare-Root Perennial Plants

Treat bare-root perennials like tender annuals for their first growing season, when they typically focus on root growth. Once established, usually in the second year, they are vigorous and floriferous.

When you receive your order, open the bags and check the stock immediately. Roots and crowns should be firm and pliable, not soft or brittle. If they are slightly dry, add a little water or, if they are going to be potted up soon, soak the roots. Generally, a little surface mold is harmless and will not affect the plant's future performance. If you cannot pot them up immediately, store them in a cool (35-40°) location for a short time.

Pot up the roots in well-drained potting mix. Most plants need a deep 6" pot or a 1-gallon container. Avoid coiling the roots in the bottom of under-

sized containers. Grow newly potted perennials for a few weeks in a protected location in indirect light at 50-60° and keep from freezing. Wet and/or cold conditions for an extended period may cause rotting. Begin feeding when new growth appears. Keep dry fertilizers away from plant crowns. Use animal manures with caution as they can promote fungal and bacterial diseases.

Transplant outside once they show some top growth and the danger of frost has passed. Dig a hole about twice the size of the pot, loosening the surrounding soil and adding compost or fertilizers as necessary. Generally, plant the top of the crown just below ground level, less than an inch from the surface of the soil.

Nearly all perennials appreciate a fall mulch and a sidedressing of compost or leaf mold in the spring.



Aster Starwort or Frost Flower are familiar summer and fall wildflowers throughout the nation. These varieties are selected for outstanding color and form but are still robust and easy to grow. Flowers provide great displays in fall, attract butterflies and beneficial insects, and last a long time in the vase. Deer don't usually eat them. Plant singly, group in a border, or naturalize in meadows or on banks. Cut back slightly in early-mid June to induce an abundance of 1½–2" rayed blooms from late August into October. Asters are at their peak when most plants have faded. Plant 12–18" apart in light moist humusy soil in full sun with good air circulation. Z4.

A. novae-angliae 'Hella Lacy' Large violet-blue flowers on heavily branched clumps make a spectacular September display. Tall at 36–48".

6331: 1/\$4.25;

6332: 3/\$11.00;

6333: 6/\$19.75

A. n.-a. 'Purple Dome' Deep purple flowers with an excellent compact habit. 18".

6341: 1/\$4.50;

6342: 3/\$12.00;

6343: 6/\$21.50

A. novi-belgii 'Alert' Deep purplish-red semi-double flowers bloom prolifically on an especially compact mound, 12–15" high.

6351: 1/\$4.25;

6352: 3/\$11.00;

6353: 6/\$19.75

Astilbe Feather Flower or False Spirea lends a novel touch to the border and is easy to grow, hardy and long-lived. Long-lasting plumes of feathery flowers are good for drying and provide an interesting contrast to more ordinary petaled blossoms. Elegant fern-like foliage forms an attractive clump all season and comes in a wide range of sizes and shades. Convention holds Astilbe to be a partial-shade plant that absolutely requires a moist humusy acid soil when grown in full sun. That's true in warmer areas, but in central Maine it seems to tolerate full sun in a wide range of conditions. Blooms July and August. Said to be deer-resistant, but I wouldn't bet the ranch. Stock has 2–3 "eyes." Plant 12–18" apart and divide clumps every few years. Z4.

A. x arendsii 'Bridal Veil' Elegant sprays of lacy white flowers. Panicles gently droop at the tips for a nodding affect. Deep green glossy foliage. Mid-season. 28–32" tall.

6361: 1/\$3.00;

6362: 3/\$8.00;

6363: 6/\$14.00

A. chinensis 'Purple Candles'

Also called *Purpurkerze*.

Purple-red narrow plumes, shiny coarse-textured dark green foliage. Very late season, one of the tallest, 36–42".

6371: 1/\$2.90;

6372: 3/\$7.50;

6373: 6/\$12.75

A. japonica 'Rheinland'

Deep rose-pink flowers on large diamond-shaped panicles. Flower buds are clustered closer together than most astilbes so color is more intense. Vigorous and floriferous. Medium-green foliage. Early season. 24" tall.

6381: 1/\$2.90;

6382: 3/\$7.00;

6383: 6/\$12.50

A. simplicifolia 'Hennie Graafland' Glowing light pink flowers catch one's eye across the garden, described as "unnaturally bright." Tight clusters loosen after a while. Finely cut shiny small very dark bronze-green foliage "looks like a fern bed" after the spent blooms are cut. Mid-late season. 16" tall. Z4.

6391: 1/\$2.90;

6392: 3/\$7.00;

6393: 6/\$12.50



Convallaria majalis Lily of the Valley A top-seller for all 22 years that we've listed it. Makes a hardy bedding or border plant and an excellent ground cover, even in dry shady areas. Easy to grow under any conditions, but prefers partial to full shade. Produces long stems of bell-shaped fragrant white flowers in late spring-early summer, followed by small orange berries. Intense fragrance and delicate shape add welcome notes to bouquets. Plant pips 2" deep, 3–5" apart in rich moist soil. 6–8" tall. Z2.

6401: 5/\$3.90;

6402: 10/\$6.50;

6403: 25/\$14.75

Delphinium 'Magic Fountains' Delphinium No

staking needed for these sturdy early-summer 28–36" spikes densely covered in flowers. The Magic Fountain series is long-lived and easier to grow than the big delphiniums, making it a wonderful choice for small gardens. My blue one is over 7 years old now and makes a bigger show every summer, now rivaling the big ones for profusion of lavish flowers. Mix includes white, pink, lavender, lilac, sky blue and dark blue. Sidedress lightly in early, mid and late spring for best show. Remove spent flowerstalks to encourage fall rebloom. Plant 12–24" apart in highly fertile non-acid loam in full sun or light shade. Our plants this year are in 3" plugs. Z3.

6411: 1/\$3.50;

6412: 3/\$9.00;

6413: 6/\$17.00



Dicentra Bleeding Heart Graceful racemes arch over clumps of attractive cut foliage. Distinctively shaped flowers dangle in a row on each raceme like charms on a bracelet. Hardy long-lived plant when it gets rich moist soil and partial shade. Z3.

D. cucularia Dutchman's Breeches White

yellow-tipped flowers look like so many tiny pantaloons hanging above very finely cut foliage. Blooms with the daffodils and makes a wonderful accent in an early spring garden. An ephemeral: whole plant dies down after flowering; little tubers remain dormant until the following spring. Native eastern wildflower, rescued from sites about to be developed and nursery propagated. 8–12" tall.

6421: 1/\$3.25;

6422: 3/\$9.00;

6423: 6/\$16.00

D. formosa 'Luxuriant'

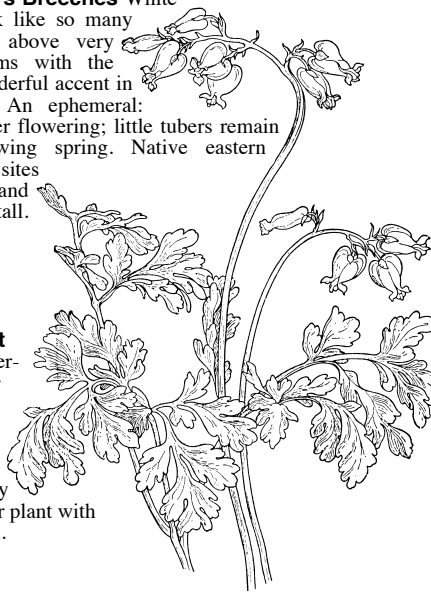
Western Bleeding Heart

Blooms all summer and tolerates heat and drought better than any other *Dicentra*. Cherry red flowers defy the elements as they dangle above lush finely cut light green foliage which is pretty as a fern's. Excellent border plant with spreading habit, 12–15" tall.

6431: 1/\$4.50;

6432: 3/\$11.50;

6433: 6/\$20.50



D. spectabilis Old-Fashioned Bleeding Heart

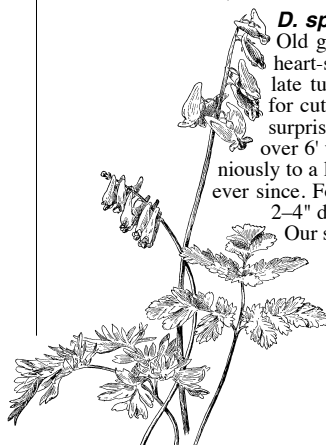
Old garden favorite delights every spring with pink heart-shaped flowers with white detail. Blooms with late tulips and complements them well. Also useful for cutting. Prefers plenty of room to bush out. Mine surprised both me and its neighbors when it became over 6' wide in two years. I moved it rather unceremoniously to a less hospitable spot and it has been manageable ever since. Foliage tends to die back in summer heat. Plant 2–4" deep, 24" apart. 30–36" tall.

Our stock has 2–3 eyes.

6441: 1/\$3.50;

6442: 3/\$8.25;

6443: 6/\$14.50





Digitalis x mertonensis
Strawberry Foxglove

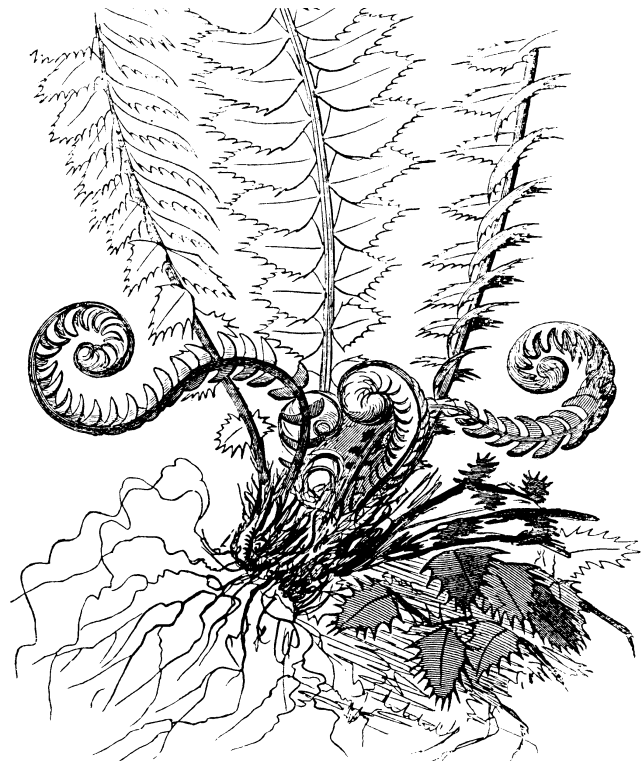
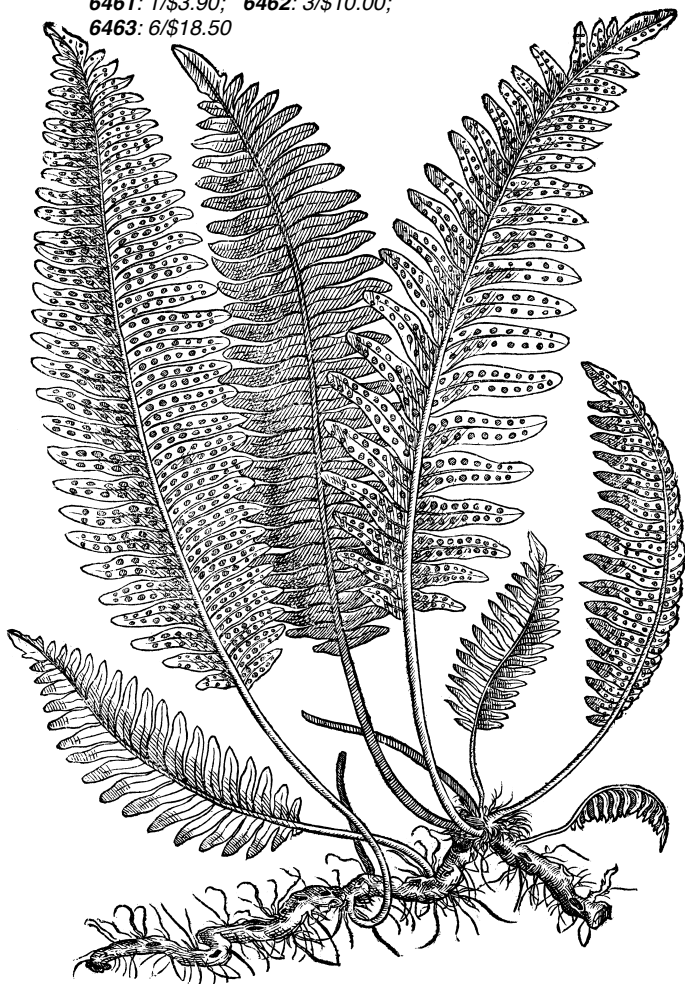
Pendulous 2½" bell-shaped copper-tinted strawberry-rose flowers with spotted throats dangle along 3–4' spires from June through August. Good for cutting or border. Basal rosette of big velvety leaves. Large true-breeding tetraploid hybrid needs dividing every 3 years. Plant 24–36" apart in moist slightly acid soil in full sun to partial shade. Z4.

6451: 1/\$4.00;
 6452: 3/\$11.00;
 6453: 6/\$19.00

Ferns are flowerless spore-producing perennials represented by over 10,000 species worldwide, ranging from 70' tropical tree ferns to teeny plants sprouting from cracks in alpine rock. In Maine we enjoy lush fern displays all summer on the roadsides and in the woods. More and more people are using ferns as foundation plantings and in all kinds of shaded spots. Ferns make wonderful low-maintenance foliage plants that thrive in moist woodsy humus-rich soil and lend a serene aura to a shady garden or landscape. Mulch if necessary to keep crowns from drying out.

Christmas Fern *Polystichum acrostichoides* remains evergreen in warmer zones, where it's widely used for Christmas cut greenery. Shuttlecock of fronds with ladder-like parallel leathery dark green leaves is partially evergreen in our climate. Provides good fall interest and emerges in very early spring to complement woodland flowers. Moist acidic soil, light shade, tolerates sun given sufficient moisture. Plant 2–3' apart. 18–24" tall. Northeastern native. Z3.

6461: 1/\$3.90; 6462: 3/\$10.00;
 6463: 6/\$18.50



Japanese Painted Fern *Athyrium niponicum* 'Pictum' The most decorative fern I know and surprisingly rugged for such a fancy plant. The Perennial Plant Association's Plant of the Year for 2004. Soft grey-green background with purplish wine-red stems and markings, accented by silvery-grey highlights. Needs partial shade, moist soil. Deciduous. 8–18" tall with spreading habit. Plant 8–12" apart. Z3.

6471: 1/\$6.50;
 6472: 2/\$11.75;
 6473: 3/\$16.00

Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina* Graceful bright green fronds are twice compound with very numerous leaflets resulting in a fine-textured classic fern appearance. Many variant forms, a few taller than 4' but most are under 2'. Works as a foundation planting on the shady sides of my house. Spreads easily from falling spores in moist soil. Tolerates more sun and drier soil than most ferns. Z3.

6481: 1/\$3.90;
 6482: 3/\$10.00;
 6483: 6/\$19.00

Maidenhair Fern *Adiantum pedatum* Delicate whorled form makes it one of my favorites. Glossy black stems curve up and then droop toward the ground with more narrow black stems growing in arches from them. Tiny distinct ginkgo-like green leaves line every stem. Plant 12" apart. Likes semi-shade or shade, moist soils. Native to eastern North America. Very hardy. Z2.

6491: 1/\$3.90;
 6492: 3/\$10.00;
 6493: 6/\$19.00

Ostrich Fern *Matteuccia struthiopteris* A delicately textured bright green deciduous fern with a golden hue in the light. Frond tips curl like ostrich feathers. One of the largest hardy ferns, 3–7' tall, and spreads by underground runners, so give it room. Likes open shade, woods and wet banks. Tolerates full sun in swampy areas. Native to Europe, but well established and welcome in North America. Z2.

6501: 1/\$4.25;
 6502: 3/\$11.50;
 6503: 6/\$19.50

Royal Fern *Osmunda regalis* One of the showiest garden ferns, makes a great focal point on a waterside or in a woodland. Attains giant proportions. Slow-growing plant gets to be 6' tall and over 9' wide in humus-rich moist-to-wet soil. Soft and wavy deciduous lance-shaped light green fronds can reach 3' long. Sometimes called **Flowering Fern** because some of the fronds have brown spore cases on their tips which lend a decorative tassel-like appearance. Evolutionarily speaking, *Osmunda* is one of the oldest plant genera, native to North and South America and Asia. Some royal fern individuals are said to be 1000 years old. Ours are much younger. Z3.

6511: 1/\$4.25;
 6512: 3/\$11.50;
 6513: 6/\$19.50



***Heliopsis helianthoides* 'Summer Sun' False Sunflower** Great for wild places and informal borders. Semi-double bright golden-yellow flowers are 3" across on long sturdy stems, so they make excellent cuts. Durable and showy, blooming from July through September. Plant it alone as an accent or with other vigorous perennials lest it crowd out its neighbors. Likes full sun and heat, tolerates drought, especially with adequate humus. Dead-head to promote continuous blooms. Plant 24" apart, 24–36" tall. Z3.

6521: 1/\$2.90;

6522: 3/\$8.50;

6523: 6/\$15.00

***Hemerocallis* Daylily** Champion low-maintenance perennial produces a bush of narrow arched leaves topped with lily-shaped flowers from July to September. *Hemerocallis* means *beautiful day*, referring to the fact that each flower lasts only a day, but since each scape (or stem) is covered with buds, bloom periods can be extensive and the long stems work well in bouquets. Very hardy, flourishes under a wide range of conditions, from full sun to shade, wet to dry. Trouble-free, chokes out weeds. For foundation planting, terrace, brookside, border or wild garden. Plant 12–18" apart in average soil; benefits from a shovel or two full of compost.

Thanks to John Bunker's unflagging efforts—John loves not only fruits and trees and shrubs, but daylilies too—I've made the acquaintance of Lew Purinton, Somerville gardener and daylily collector *extraordinaire*. I'm delighted that Lew is supplying us with gems from his collection at very reasonable prices. All the Maine grown (ME Grown) daylily stock is from Purinton's gardens, so supplies will be limited; order early. Z2.

***H. flava* Lemon Lily or Custard Lily** When you see the first daylilies of the season blooming by old houses, they're probably yellow and probably Lemon Lilies. Clear bright yellow star-shaped flowers. Old variety with a lemony floral scent. 24" tall.

6531: 1/\$4.00;

6532: 3/\$10.50;

6533: 6/\$18.50

H. 'Ben Kirk' Tawny-orange 6" lightly ruffled blossoms, "pumpkin color," have intense maroon-red eyes and yellow throats. Look at their picture on our website if you can; they are striking and beautiful. Barth introduction, early season, 36" tall. ME Grown.

6541: 1/\$4.25;

6542: 3/\$11.00;

6543: 6/\$21.00

H. 'Corryton Pink' Large pink flowers have reflexed (swept back) petals and yellow-green throats. Apparently their shade of pink varies with their soil from perfectly rosy to peachy. "They're a great plant for me," says grower Lew Purinton. Early season, 24–30" tall. ME Grown.

6551: 1/\$3.00;

6552: 3/\$8.50;

6553: 6/\$16.00

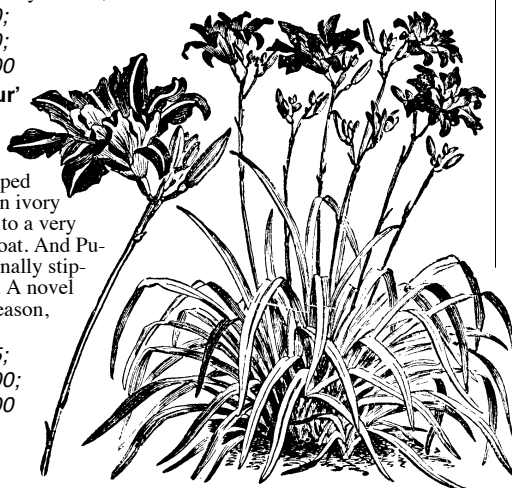
H. 'Court Troubadour'

I couldn't believe the photos, but then I saw it in person. Cherry-red narrow-petaled star-shaped large flowers have a thin ivory line which traces down to a very bright yellow-green throat. And Purinton's stock is additionally stippled with yellow green. A novel sensation! Early-mid season, 24–30" tall. ME Grown.

6561: 1/\$4.25;

6562: 3/\$11.00;

6563: 6/\$21.00



H. 'Orange Bounty' Again, the photos show gorgeous bright orange-yellow with soft orange highlights in the eye-zone and on the edges all displaying an unusual texture. When I learned it was a McEwen release I decided we *must* list it. Then when visiting the grower's gardens, it called to me from across the patch. It's a big glowing 6–7" flower, 30–36" tall. I love it. Mid-late season. ME Grown.

6571: 1/\$4.25;

6572: 3/\$11.00;

6573: 6/\$21.00

H. 'Poinsettia' Strikingly narrow red petals on this spider-type features a "star" of yellow emerging from the bright yellow throat. Interesting red stamens with yellow anthers. An old variety introduced in 1953 by Arlow B. Stout of the New York Botanical Gardens and Stout Medal fame. Mid-late season, 36" tall. ME Grown.

6581: 1/\$3.00;

6582: 3/\$8.50;

6583: 6/\$15.75

H. 'Ruben Mendez' Wide slightly ruffled petals are an enchanting soft apricot shade with a barely noticeable lavender midrib. Vigorous 6" flowers on scapes reaching to 40". McEwen introduction in 1971, apparently named for his son-in-law. Mid-late season. ME Grown.

6591: 1/\$3.00;

6592: 3/\$8.50;

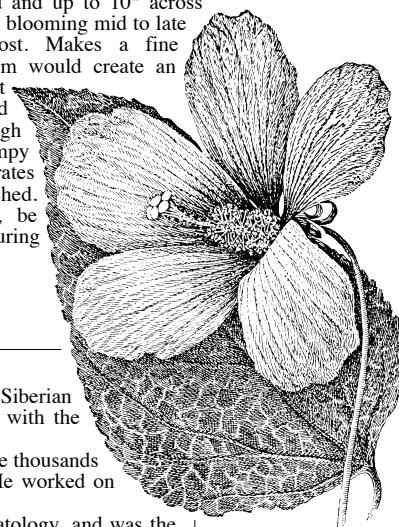
6593: 6/\$16.00

***Hibiscus moscheutos* 'Lord Baltimore' Rose Mallow** Thirteen years ago, Gene had the foresight to list hibiscus and planted one. Ever since it has provided tropical foliage and flowers every summer here in central Maine. Sales were anemic back then, but now hibiscus is a hot item in the northern nursery trade. Glorious vigorous tall plant is one of the last to appear in spring, making it a good companion for spring bulbs. After emerging, it grows like crazy and becomes a 4–5' spike covered with large deeply lobed velvety leaves and dinner plate-sized single flowers. Lord Baltimore's flowers are brilliant deep red and up to 10" across with overlapping petals. Starts blooming mid to late summer and goes until frost. Makes a fine specimen and several of them would create an amazing summer hedge. Plant 18–24" apart in full sun and average garden soil. Though native to southern swampy margins and meadows, tolerates dry soil once fully established. Since they emerge so late, be careful not to root them out during spring cleanup. Z4.

6601: 1/\$5.50;

6602: 2/\$10.00;

6603: 3/\$13.50



Currier McEwen

At Seaways Gardens, overlooking the sound in S. Harpswell, ME, around 1968 Currier McEwen crossed two blue Siberian irises and got some yellow offspring. He selected 'Butter and Sugar', the first yellow Siberian ever registered with the American Iris Society, establishing him both as bitten by the hybridizing bug and as a respected iris breeder.

Around that time McEwen retired to Seaways and to decades of serious hybridization where every year he made thousands of crosses and introduced 3–6 new iris cultivars, including many familiar ones like 'Ewen' and 'Orville Fay'. He worked on daylilies as a sideline. By age 91, he was crossing "only" 400 per year.

Incredibly, plant breeding was a hobby. Born in 1902, he was a physician, developed the specialty of rheumatology, and was the youngest person ever to be a dean of the NYU School of Medicine. In 1939 he met with Albert Einstein arranging to help several Jewish doctors leave Germany. After his "retirement" to Maine he maintained a medical practice in Brunswick.

He died at 101 and was said to be an old man for only three weeks of his life. Those who knew him praise the way he found time to share his bright, optimistic, welcoming, indomitable spirit with everyone he met.



Hosta has bold foliage in orderly mounds with dependable sprays of fragrant bell-shaped flowers on tall stalks. Valuable and cherished low-maintenance border plant provides shade-loving ground cover spring to frost. Formerly called **Plantain Lily** or **Funkia** but I have never heard either used. A friend described them as "so architectural!" With their varying colors, textures and clump sizes, hostas alone under trees can make a woodland garden. Hostas tolerate a wide range of soil conditions, but need moisture. Those with blue and variegated leaves develop best color in shade. Deep shade gives fewer flowers. Plant 2–4' apart in rich soil with adequate humus. Divide every 4–5 years, or disturb clumps as little as possible; they improve with age as they spread and establish. Z3.

H. fortunei Aureomarginata Deep olive-green leaves have distinct veining and a thin yellow edge (*aureus* means golden-yellow). Violet flowers on 24" scapes in August. 18–24" tall clump. Two-for-one sale.

6611: 2/\$3.50;
6612: 6/\$10.00;
6613: 12/\$17.00

H. 'June' On a recent garden visit, seed purchaser Nikos picked 'June' as a winner. No wonder: it was Hosta of the Year in 2001! Irregular blue-green margins surround a lighter center, chartreuse in spring, turning yellow-gold in summer. The blue-green and yellow overlap and streak most attractively. Pale lavender-blue flowers on 20" scapes. Clumps around 15" tall.

6621: 1/\$5.50;
6622: 2/\$9.50;
6623: 3/\$12.50

H. 'Krossa Regal' The Royal Horticultural Society handbook on hostas captured it for me: "Giant blue-grey hosta of unique poise. Leaves: narrowly wedge-shaped, blade wavy, powdery greyish blue-green carried on long upright leaf stalks....Distinct...for its vase-shaped foliage" in clumps up to 40" high. Pale lilac flowers on stalks up to 5'. A big blue beauty noted for good performance under adverse conditions.

6631: 1/\$3.50;
6632: 3/\$9.50;
6633: 6/\$17.50

H. 'Liberty' A standout in its photos, looking white and bright. Wide jetting yellow margins lighten to creamy white. Heavy substantial leaves resist slugs. Lavender flowers appear early, around 40" tall. Clumps are 24–26" tall.

6641: 1/\$7.50;
6642: 2/\$13.00;
6643: 3/\$18.00

H. 'Royal Standard' Deep rich glossy green ribbed foliage. Fragrant white flowers in late summer on scapes reaching to 40". Tolerates sun and drought. Clumps around 20" tall. Bargain prices.

6651: 1/\$2.90;
6652: 3/\$7.50;
6653: 6/\$13.00

H. sieboldiana 'Frances Williams' Outstanding cultivar often called the best hosta. Huge leaves have rich blue-green interiors with a wide variable golden-yellow edge. Clumps around 36" high. White flowers on shortish slightly pendant stalks harmonize with the foliage rather than stand above it.

6661: 1/\$3.50;
6662: 3/\$9.50;
6663: 6/\$16.00



Iris sibirica Siberian Iris produces delicate flowers in late June on thin stems excellent for cutting. Tall slender foliage looks good all summer. Tolerates most conditions, but performs best in rich moist acid soil. Plant 12–15" apart in full sun or partial shade. Give them room to spread, and divide clumps every few years.

When, at age 86, renowned Maine iris breeder Dr. Currier McEwen began to scale back his operation, Steve Jones was privileged to dig a large portion of McEwen's collection for his Fieldstone Gardens in Vassalboro. We are delighted that Steve is supplying us again from that collection. Z3. Also see *Hemerocallis* (page 51) for a profile of McEwen and more of his beautiful releases.

I. s. 'Chartreuse Bounty' Big blooms have an open *ensata*-like form in a stunning shade that would highlight any iris collection. Very light creamy-yellow standards and large graceful greenish-yellow falls, all with a chartreuse cast. Charming and floriferous. Mid to late season. McEwen introduction, 1983. 24–30" tall. **ME Grown.**

6671: 1/\$7.00;
6672: 2/\$12.50;
6673: 3/\$17.00



I. s. 'Ewen' Flaring red-purple flowers, described as wine-red and close to true red. Vigorous tetraploid. McEwen intro, 1971. 30–36" tall. **ME Grown.**

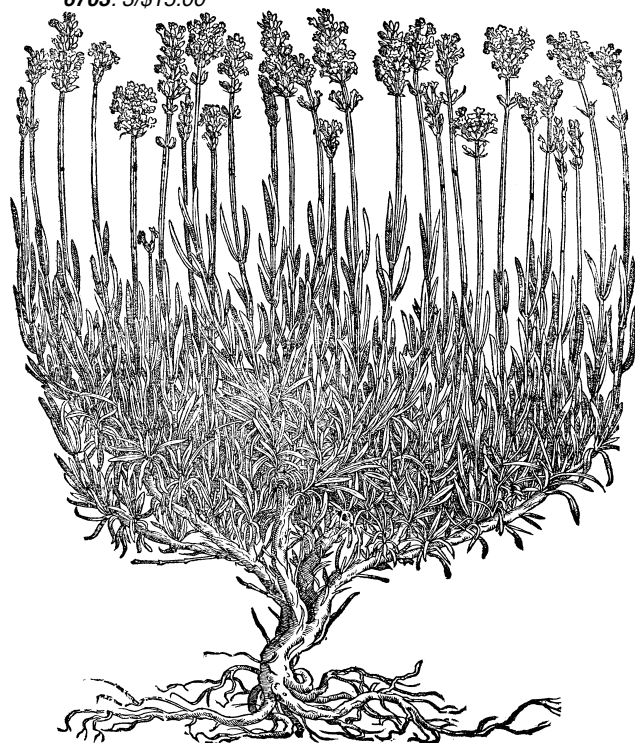
6681: 1/\$7.50;
6682: 2/\$14.00;
6683: 3/\$19.00

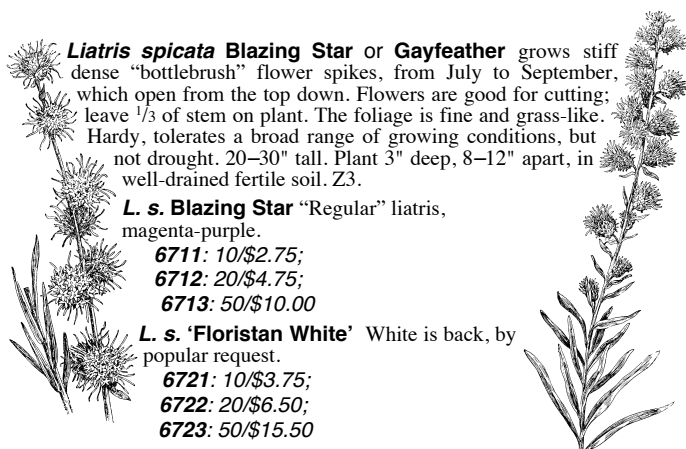
I. s. 'Pink Haze' Beautiful—one of my favorites. Light lavender with a pinkish-mauve cast. Our web photo looks more lavender, but in real light it was definitely pinky. And gorgeous. 36" tall. **ME Grown.**

6691: 1/\$6.50;
6692: 2/\$11.50;
6693: 3/\$16.50

Lavandula angustifolia Lavender 'Munstead' Spires of lavender-blue 15–18" tall flowers treasured for their scent. Valued for dried arrangements, potpourri and herb bundles, lavender's aroma soothes the nervous system and perfumes the linen closet. Blooms all summer. Aromatic grey-green lanceolate foliage, bushy habit. Makes a nice border, rockery, slope, edging or specimen plant. Prune woody stems in spring. Likes full sun; demands good drainage. Plant 12–18" apart. Still certified-organically grown by Blessed Maine Herb Farm. If supplies run short we will substitute conventionally grown at a reduced price. Z4. **ME Grown.**

6701: 1/\$6.00;
6702: 2/\$11.00;
6703: 3/\$15.00





***Liatris spicata* Blazing Star or Gayfeather** grows stiff dense "bottlebrush" flower spikes, from July to September, which open from the top down. Flowers are good for cutting; leave 1/3 of stem on plant. The foliage is fine and grass-like. Hardy, tolerates a broad range of growing conditions, but not drought. 20–30" tall. Plant 3" deep, 8–12" apart, in well-drained fertile soil. Z3.

L. s. Blazing Star "Regular" liatris, magenta-purple.

6711: 10/\$2.75;

6712: 20/\$4.75;

6713: 50/\$10.00

L. s. 'Floristan White' White is back, by popular request.

6721: 10/\$3.75;

6722: 20/\$6.50;

6723: 50/\$15.50

***Lilium* Lilies** Queen of the perennial border, fabulously showy and surprisingly easy to grow. Breeders have been working on them for thousands of years and continue to develop scores of new cultivars every year. It's confusing terrain, but briefly: **Asiatic** types bloom early, are a bit smaller (under 4') than **Oriental** and often have their star-shaped blossoms facing upward. **Oriental** strains tend to be taller (may need staking) and bloom later, with their very fragrant and flamboyant blossoms slightly pendant on tiny stems off the main stem. **Tigers** have petals that are tightly curved back, hairy stems and bulbils where the leaf meets the stem. **Trumpets** have long trumpet-shaped blooms, resemble so-called Easter Lilies, are tall and late.

Excellent as bedding plants or cutflowers, good as specimens or in solid masses. Lily leaf beetle may be a problem in your area. See sidebar for some details. Light shade prolongs summer blooms and keeps the bulbs cool. Mulch in full sun. Plant bulbs 6–8" deep, 6" apart in rich well-drained soil, slightly acid with good humus content. Z3.

L. 'Monte Negro' Asiatic, 42" Stir a dab of dark chocolate into fire engine red and you've got the intense deep color of 'Monte Negro'. Early: the first lily to bloom in my garden. Bargain prices on 1 3/4–2" bulbs.

6731: 2/\$3.50;

6732: 6/\$9.00;

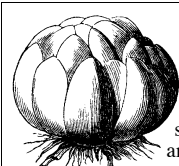
6733: 12/\$16.00

L. 'Vermeer' Asiatic, 36–40" Shell pink brushed white toward the center. Bargain prices on 1 1/2–1 3/4" bulbs.

6741: 2/\$3.25;

6742: 6/\$8.50;

6743: 12/\$15.00



Lily leaf beetle (*Lilioceris lili*) has made its way to central Maine. We've had good results picking the first flush of adults and dropping them in soapy water; we've seen very few larvae. Some leaves had holes in them but the damage was nothing like the denuded stalks that some gardeners described. Standard organic insecticides are also effective.

Small attractive bright red beetles, the adults, overwinter in soil and plant debris and emerge in early spring to munch, mate and lay tiny dull-orange eggs in irregular rows on the undersides of leaves. Larvae hatch in about a week and feed for 16–24 days on leaves of lilies (not daylilies), fritillaria, and nightshades. The larvae are the real nuisance: voracious eaters, they carry their excrement on their backs to deter predators which makes them mighty unappealing. They then drop to the ground where they pupate in cocoons. In about 25 days they emerge as adults.

L. 'Casa Blanca' Oriental, 40–44" (but I've seen them blooming from 3–8"). Pure white with textured white specks, and bobbing russet anthers. Absolutely gorgeous and their alluring fragrance fills the garden. Always one of our most popular offerings. Big 2 1/4–2 1/2" bulbs.

6751: 1/\$3.00;

6752: 3/\$6.00;

6753: 6/\$11.00

L. 'Stargazer' Oriental, 24–30"

Deep rose spotted with darker rose and narrowly edged with white. Fragrant flowers are huge when plants become well established. Continues to be wildly and deservedly popular. Great prices on 2–2 1/4" bulbs.

6761: 2/\$3.50;

6762: 6/\$9.50;

6763: 12/\$16.00

L. tigrinum Tiger Lily (synonym *L.*

lancifolium) Robust variety produces scads of familiar orange nodding flowers with recurved petals generously flecked with dark purple dots. Prominent rusty-red anthers. Distinguished by purplish-black bulbils in the leaf axils along the stem. When the plant is happy, the bulbils will drop and sprout baby lilies by the score. A few shovelfuls of compost keep my thriving plantation of tiger lilies happy year after year. Blooms in August in central Maine. 2–5' tall. Z2. 1 3/4–2" bulbs.

6771: 1/\$3.25;

6772: 3/\$8.50;

6773: 6/\$15.00

L. 'Regale' Trumpet, 40" and taller. White interior with yellow throat, remarkable bronzy-pink exterior. Graceful 5–6" long flowers have somewhat recurved petals. Fragrant and late-season. Very strong bloomer. Big 2 1/2" bulbs.

6781: 1/\$4.75;

6782: 2/\$8.50;

6783: 3/\$12.00

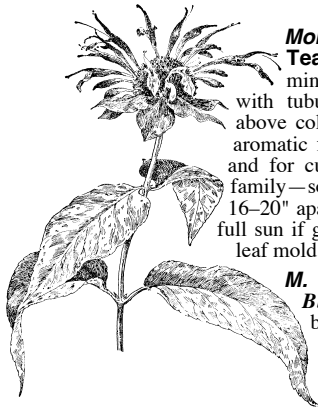
***Mertensia virginica* Bluebells or Virginia Bluebells or Virginia Cowslip** When Kip brought bluebells into the office during the daffodil bloom one year, I remembered what a spring treat they are. Clump-forming plant with erect stems and oval veined leaves bears clusters of nodding bell-shaped flowers on terminal cymes. Pink buds open to sky-blue or purple-blue flowers which look a lot like those of *Pulmonaria* or borage. In fact, another name is *M. pulmonarioides*. Beautiful in shade displays with ferns, *Dicentra* and *Scilla*. Prefer moist lowlands and acid woodsy soil in part shade. 18–24" tall. Dormant in summer. Native to eastern North America. Z3.

6791: 1/\$3.25;

6792: 3/\$8.50;

6793: 6/\$15.00





Monarda didyma Bee Balm or Oswego Tea is loved by bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Attractive showy flower heads with tubular petals on pincushion heads borne above colorful bracts in July and August. Coarse aromatic foliage. Good for borders, for wet areas and for cutting. A vigorous member of the mint family—some might say invasive. Plant crowns 16–20" apart in light shade in moist soil. Thrives in full sun if given adequate moisture or mulched with leaf mold; tolerates most conditions. Z3.

M. 'Blue Stocking' Also called **Blaustrumpf**. Violet-purple with purple bracts. 34–38" tall.

6801: 1/\$3.50;

6802: 3/\$9.00;

6803: 6/\$15.50

M. 'Jacob Cline' Very large 5" red flowers, good vigor and resistance to mildew. Now embraced in the nursery trade as "the best red." 3–5' tall.

6811: 1/\$4.00;

6812: 3/\$11.00;

6813: 6/\$18.75

M. 'Raspberry Wine' Clear wine-red flowers. Dark green foliage has wine shading. I saw this color blooming with balloon flower last August. The purple-ish red vibrated wonderfully with the blue balloon flower. They brought out the best in each other. 2–3' tall.

6821: 1/\$4.00;

6822: 3/\$11.00;

6823: 6/\$19.00

Paeonia lactiflora Garden Peony or Chinese Peony Red shoots appear in spring and form a bushy clump, about 3x3', of lustrous dark green deeply lobed foliage. Fat spherical buds on sturdy stems above the foliage gradually open into large beautiful flowers from late spring to early summer. (Ants may help the buds to open so don't discourage their presence.) Huge flowers are stunning on the bush and wonderful when cut. Most are fully double but the Japanese type features a single round of petals that frames a clump of different petals inside. If you catch flower buds when they are just marshmallow soft, they can be cut and stored for weeks in the fridge for bouquets later. May take up to 3 to 5 years to establish before blooming and resents being disturbed. Wait several years, until the plants have many stems, before attempting to divide. Stock has at least 2–3 eyes. Z3.

P. I. 'Bowl of Beauty' Striking two-tone effect of this Japanese-type makes me think of a bright pink bowl holding one scoop of French vanilla ice cream. A partially double row of dark carmine-pink petals opens to display a creamy-yellow carnation-like center made up of a profusion of narrow petaloids. Scented. Midseason. 38" tall.

6831: 1/\$9.75;

6832: 2/\$17.00;

6833: 3/\$22.50

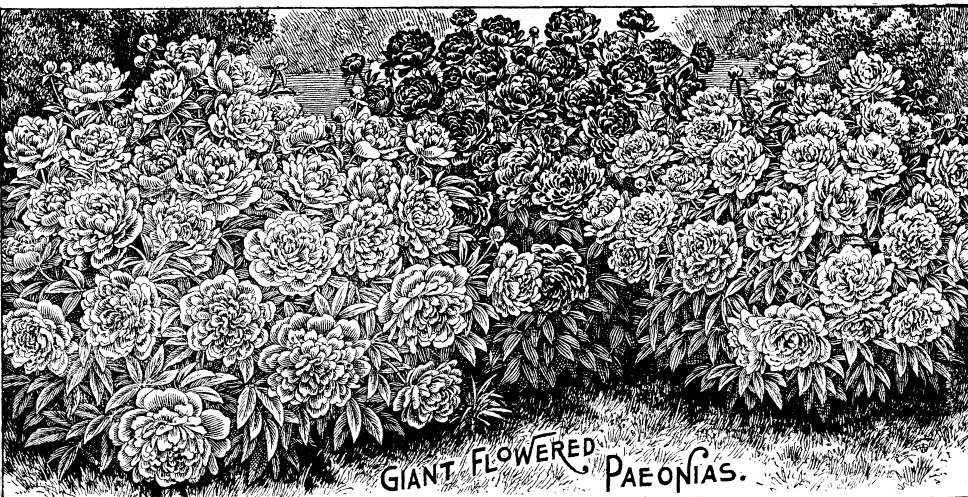


P. I. 'Festiva Maxima' Introduced in 1851 and possibly my favorite peony, though it would be hard to decide between Festiva and Sarah Bernhardt. Large fragrant double white flowers have tiny crimson lines and flecks appearing randomly through some of the inner petals. Early season. 36–39" tall.

6841: 1/\$9.50;

6842: 2/\$18.00;

6843: 3/\$24.00



GIANT FLOWERED PAEONIAS.

P. I. 'Karl Rosenfield' Large bright crimson-red fully double blooms. Mild fragrance, excellent for cutting. Some people even dry them. Glossy attractive foliage. Midseason. 28–33" tall.

6851: 1/\$6.50;

6852: 2/\$12.00;

6853: 3/\$16.00



P. I. 'Sarah Bernhardt' Fragrant flowers open with narrow red lines shot onto light rose-pink. Matures to delicate pink with a slight creamy-silvery edge. Can a pink be both warm and silvery? This one is. One of my favorites with exactly the right amount of doubling—appears richly full but not crammed. Late season. 36".

6861: 1/\$6.50;

6862: 2/\$12.00;

6863: 3/\$15.50

P. I. 'Top Brass' "Bomb"-type begins with white outer petals (sometimes with a barely pink blush) which enclose a central mound of finely cut white inner petals and even narrower light canary-yellow petals. A pastel explosion with yellow highlights. Midseason. 20–36" tall.

6871: 1/\$13.00;

6872: 2/\$24.00;

6873: 3/\$32.00

Paeonia suffruticosa Japanese Tree Peony or Moutan is expensive, but as garden writer Peter Coats says, "It is worthwhile to sell everything one possesses to buy peonies, and to dig up everything else in the garden to make room for them." A fashion craze in China by the 7th century, tree peonies appear in poets' songs and as decorative motifs in architecture, porcelain and fabric. 19th century botanical explorer Robert Fortune reported a specimen outside Shanghai that produced 300–400 flowers a year. Deciduous shrub with deeply cut narrow-lobed medium green foliage forms many (though probably fewer than 300 in its first century) large stunning flowers in early June, before Garden Peony. Semi-double extravagantly big flowers with loose satiny petals. Full sun promotes fastest growth but also fades the flowers which do best in dappled shade; fanatics shade plants with umbrellas while they are flowering. 48–60" tall. 1-yr. plants may need 2–3 years to mature before blooming begins. Z4.

P. s. 'Kamatanishiki' Tree Peony

semi-double, wisteria-blue with lighter petal edges.

6881: 1/\$26.00;

6882: 2/\$44.00;

6883: 3/\$60.00

P. s. 'Kinkaku' Tree Peony fully double yellow petals have orange edges giving an overall orange effect.

6891: 1/\$26.00;

6892: 2/\$44.00;

6893: 3/\$60.00

P. s. Red Tree Peony

6901: 1/\$17.00;

6902: 2/\$29.00;

6903: 3/\$40.00

P. s. Violet Tree Peony

6911: 1/\$17.50;

6912: 2/\$30.00;

6913: 3/\$41.00



Garden Peonies Plant 2–3' apart with the eyes (where the growth shoots meet the root) no more than 1–1½" below the surface in well-drained soil, full sun to partial shade. Peonies are extremely long-lived so amend the soil richly when you plant. Compost, very well-rotted manure, bone meal and azomite are all recommended. After that they need only a bit of weeding and feeding to flourish.

Mature plants often need staking or tying because flowers and buds can be quite heavy. For big plants, I've been using a chicken-wire method that Mary Fowler recommended. Cut a flat circle of chicken wire 2 or 3' in diameter and place it on the shoots when they are 8–10" tall. The shoots lift the wire, grow through it and use it for an invisible support.

Remove spent flowers after blooming, then cut dead foliage to near ground level in fall. Plant along the driveway; a heavy snowbank doesn't bother them.

Tree Peonies tolerate moist soils but require good drainage. Plants thrive in full sun but it may fade flower color. Plant the graft union 2–3" below soil level, in rich well-drained soil. Don't prune except for removing dead wood in spring after plants have leafed out.

Perovskia atriplicifolia Russian Sage blooms in midsummer with slender airy spires of lavender-blue tubular flowers. Finely divided grey leaves are aromatic when crushed. 1995 PPA Plant of the Year. Low-maintenance background or filler beautiful with roses or whites and blues. Perovskia has one of the longest bloom times of any blue-flowered plant. Upright habit, semi-woody shrub. Emerges slowly in spring; cut back after frost. Tolerates drought, loves heat and full sun, can't bear standing water. 3-4' tall. Likes to spread out once it gets established; plant 24-36" apart. I suspect that Zone 4 reports of winterkill are from poor drainage rather than cold, so a cautious Z4.

6921: 1/\$4.00;
6922: 3/\$11.00;
6923: 6/\$19.00

Phlox paniculata Garden Phlox produces large spreading clusters of fragrant showy long-blooming flowers in mid to late summer when so many blooms are fading, and produces delicate satiny panicles when so many blooms are coarse. Wonderful color and fragrance for accents, border or naturalized area. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Essential component of late-summer wedding bouquets. Extend flowering season by watering and prompt deadheading. Prefers humus-rich soil that stays cool and moist in summer and benefits from regular sidedressing. Plant 2' apart, full sun to partial shade. Z3.

P. 'Blue Boy' Soft lavender-blue flowers have tiny white eyes. Fragrant. 30-36" tall.

6931: 1/\$4.25;
6932: 3/\$11.00;
6933: 6/\$19.50

P. 'David' White flowers cover the plant so completely with enormous (6x7") and fragrant blooms that it was voted the PPA Plant of the Year for 2002. 30-42" tall.

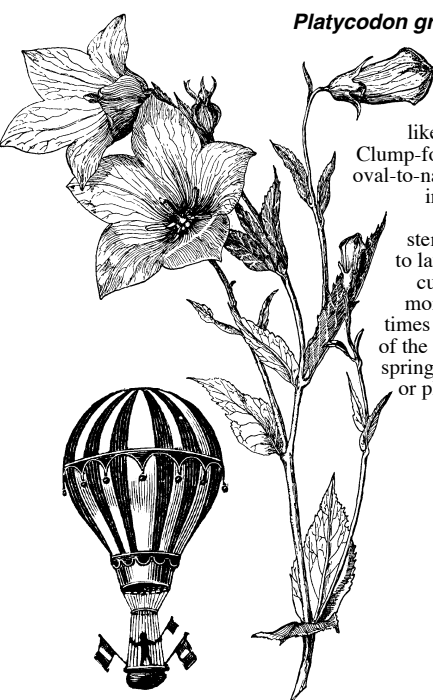
6941: 1/\$4.25;
6942: 3/\$11.00;
6943: 6/\$19.00

P. 'Delilah' Deep pink flowers are almost fuchsia. Unusual strong color resists fading and will charm any Samsons in your garden. 20-24" tall.

6951: 1/\$6.00;
6952: 2/\$11.00;
6953: 3/\$14.75

P. 'Starfire' Reliable old favorite often considered the best red. Large (6x6") abundant cherry-red flower clusters are fragrant from midsummer into fall. 25-36".

6961: 1/\$3.00;
6962: 3/\$8.00;
6963: 6/\$14.00



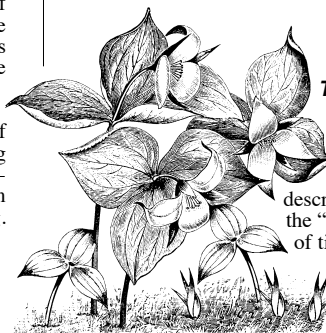
Platycodon grandiflorus var. mariesii

Balloon Flower Named for its buds which really do swell like balloons before they burst into bell-like single violet-blue flowers. Clump-forming plant has dark green oval-to-narrow leaves that look good in most settings. Fascinating balloons appear on upright stems above the foliage in mid to late summer and are good for cutting. Plant 12-18" apart in moist well-drained soil. Sometimes self-sows. 12-24" tall. One of the last perennials to emerge in spring so be careful not to disrupt or plant over it. Z3.

6971: 1/\$4.25;
6972: 3/\$11.00;
6973: 6/\$19.00

Polygonatum biflorum Solomon's Seal forms clumps of graceful arching stems about 3' long with long narrow alternate leaves. Greenish-white bell-shaped tubular flowers dangle from the stems in a row in late spring, and become small round blue-black fruits in early fall. Shade- and moisture-loving, with a serene habit, Solomon's Seal is ideal for the shade or woodland garden and makes a good foil for ferns. Don't confuse it with False Solomon's Seal which has a plume-like flower at the end of its stem. Native Americans used the root tea for ailments of stomach and lung and for general debility, and used washes from the root for all kinds of external injuries. I am not aware of local herbalists using this native plant nowadays. Sends up a few more stems every year; sturdy and long-lived. Nursery propagated. Z3.

6981: 1/\$3.50;
6982: 3/\$10.00;
6983: 6/\$17.00



Trillium erectum Red Trillium or Wakerobin or Stinking Benjamin

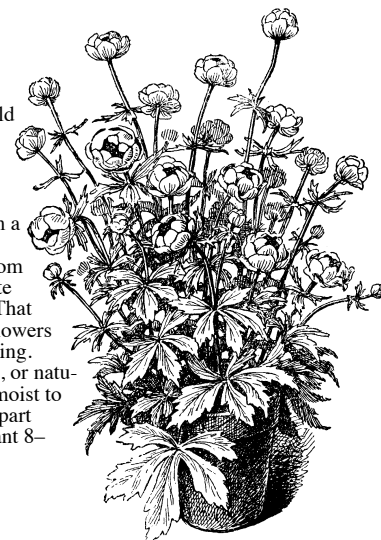
Our local wildflower preserve features huge patches of red trillium blooming in late April, a spectacular and pleasing sight. All the descriptions mention a bad smell, but we don't get the "stinking" part, detecting only a faint oceanic hint of tidal flats. Maroon blossom with three petals and three sepals sits erect on a short stem above the three oval leaves in a single whorl. Grows in moist rich woods, full or part shade, from Nova Scotia to the mountains of Georgia, west into Michigan. Nursery-propagated stock. Z4.

6991: 1/\$3.00;
6992: 3/\$8.00;
6993: 6/\$14.00

Trollius x cultorum 'Orange Princess' Globeflower

One could call them big overgrown hyper-selected buttercups and I do, but I am crazy about Trollius. Palmately lobed, then further divided and toothed (buttercup-like) leaves form a mound. Spherical to bowl-shaped orangey-yellow double flowers bloom in late spring, around the time of late tulips, on stems above the foliage. That time of year the fancy petal-filled flowers seem miraculous. Excellent for cutting. Ideal for a moist border, streamside, or naturalizing in a damp meadow. Likes moist to wet settings, heavy soil, full sun to part shade. Cut back after blooming. Plant 8-12" apart. 12-24" tall. Z3.

7011: 1/\$4.25;
7012: 3/\$11.00;
7013: 6/\$19.00



Veronica spicata 'Sunny Border Blue' Speedwell

is sometimes described as the best veronica. 1993 PPA Perennial of the Year. Gentian-blue flowers from early summer into autumn. Multiple erect flower spikes, each thickly covered with tiny tubular blossoms, are 18-20" tall. Clump-forming plant has narrow glossy deep green finely serrated leaves. Excellent addition to border or rockery. Good for cutting. Easy to grow in good well-drained soil, full to partial sun. If I were building a garden I would combine the blues—Hyssop, Lavender, Platycodon, Perovskia and this one—with white 'David' phlox. But I already have more beds than I can tend. Z3.

7021: 1/\$3.50;
7022: 3/\$9.00;
7023: 6/\$15.50



Perennial Medicinal Plants Growing medicinal plants in your garden gives you the opportunity to know their personalities, forms, uses and spirits. It also helps prevent wild plants from being overharvested. Medicine made from your plants returns you to your garden, regardless of the time or the place that you use it.

Many of the other plants we list have a tradition of medicinal use as well. These include lavender, bee balm, peony, rose, elder, hops, ginkgo, linden, hawthorne, witch hazel, blueberry, cranberry and highbush cranberry. (Index on p. 59.)

Like most perennials, these appreciate a fall mulch and a sidedressing of compost or leaf mold in the spring. Some may take a year or more to establish before they flower; roots often take several years to reach harvestable maturity. The organic listings are certified by MOFGA Certification Services and, unless otherwise noted, grown by Gail Edwards of the Blessed Maine Herb Farm in Athens. Supplies may be limited, so order early.

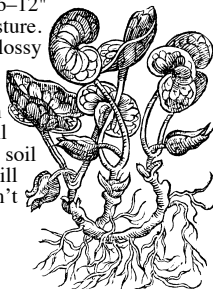
Achillea millefolium Yarrow or Milfoil has a centuries-old tradition of use for colds and fevers as well as several millennia as an external styptic, so named for its use by Achilles to stanch battlewounds. Infusion of flowering tops promotes warmth and circulation. White flowers nearly all summer, for border, meadow, herb or moon garden. Certified-organically grown by Blessed Maine Herb Farm. Z3. ME Grown.



7031: 1/\$6.00;
7032: 2/\$11.00;
7033: 3/\$15.50

See also #6251 for an ornamental yarrow.

Asarum canadense Canadian Wild Ginger Heart-shaped leaves up to 7" wide will spread into a beautiful groundcover 6-12" tall if given humus, shade and plenty of moisture. Leaves are large and slightly fuzzy, not small and glossy like the European species. Aromatic roots used like other gingers for their warming qualities and for soothing indigestion, coughs, colds, motion sickness. Grown for roots and foliage. The small reddish-brown urn-shaped flowers grow near the soil surface or in the leaf mold so crawling insects will pollinate them. They're fun to search for but won't decorate your landscape. Nursery propagated. Z3.



7041: 1/\$3.75;
7042: 3/\$9.50;
7043: 6/\$17.50

Astragalus membranaceus Chinese Milk Vetch Deep-rooted leguminous plant bears rows of whitish-yellow flowers on arching racemes.

Forms an upright bush with many stems each thickly covered with tiny pinnate leaves and small racemes. We tried to describe mine: It's not beautiful and it's not ugly, but it has so many small planes tilted in so many directions that it catches the eye in a wonderful way. I'll need several more plants before I can part with one for harvest.



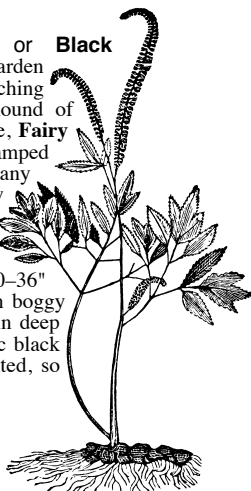
Important Chinese medicinal, *huang qi*; when used over many months provides long-term rebuilding of the immune system while helping combat exhaustion. Sometimes combined with Codonopsis in immune-building tonics. Improves digestion. Prefers deep sandy, gravelly well-drained soil and full sun. 18-36". Harvest 4- to 6-year-old roots in fall. Certified organic. Z4. ME Grown.

7051: 1/\$8.50;
7052: 2/\$15.00;
7053: 3/\$20.00

Cimicifuga racemosa Black Cohosh or Black Snakeroot flourishes in the wilder part of the garden or shady border. In late July and August, long arching racemes of creamy flowers rise above the mound of compound foliage, hence another common name, **Fairy Candles**. Anti-spasmodic for cramps, pains, cramped nerves and emotions, included in many peri-menopausal formulas. I've heard quite a few women my age say rather passionately, "I love this plant!" Diuretic and anti-inflammatory.

Easy to grow, long-lived, needs division or harvest every 4-5 years. 36-72" tall. Plant 30-36" apart in rich moist soil high in humus. Good in boggy spots. Prefers part shade, but tolerates full sun in deep moist soil. We are happy to list certified-organic black cohosh grown by Joanna Linden. Supplies limited, so order early. Z3. ME Grown.

7061: 1/\$6.00;
7062: 2/\$11.00;
7063: 3/\$15.50



Codonopsis pilosula Poor Man's Ginseng Fun to grow as a novel ornamental even apart from its medicinal properties. Tendrilly twining vines are about 4' long in their second year and have small ovate leaves. Mature vine about 6' long. Buds look like green peas, swell to little green balloons and flower as green bells with purple veining, then mature to five-sided-balloon seed pods.

Considerably easier to grow than true ginseng. Energizing, adaptogenic, supports the deep immune system. Called *dang shen* in China. Harvest 4- to 6-year-old roots. Sun to part shade, good drainage. Year-old plants are certified organic. Z4. ME Grown.

7071: 1/\$7.50;
7072: 2/\$13.75;
7073: 3/\$18.50

Echinacea purpurea Purple Coneflower Some year we may offer a named ornamental strain of Echinacea, but it gets less and less likely.



Gail Edwards' organically grown medicinal strain is stunningly beautiful and strikes me as more valuable than a merely ornamental cultivar, even if you use it only for ornament. *Echinops* means spiny and the flower's big conical centers are very spiny and coppery yellow-brown, surrounded by a single row of reflexed lavender-purple petals. Flowers attract butterflies and beneficial insects, and last well when cut. Their colors marry pinks, oranges, lavenders and golds that wouldn't ordinarily go together in beds or bouquets. Tincture the roots of 3-year-old plants for a remedy that gives an immediate boost to the immune system; use it when you feel a cold or flu coming on. Vigorous grower likes full sun and sandy loam, self-sows and tolerates wind, heat and drought once established. 30-48" tall. Plant 20-30" apart in light soil. Certified organic. Z3. ME Grown.

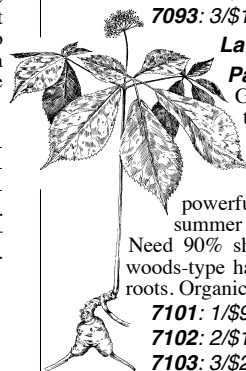
7081: 1/\$6.00;
7082: 2/\$11.00;
7083: 3/\$15.50

Hyssopus officinalis Hyssop Blue-violet flowers on erect stalks blossom from June through September and are wonderfully ornamental. Well-worth growing for an aromatic low hedge or in the border even if you don't have an herb garden. Bees love it. Leaf infusions long used for sore throats and stomach troubles, flower spikes in cough syrups. Thrives in dry soil, useful on slopes and any sunny difficult place. 12-20" tall. Plant 12-24" apart in poor soil, full sun to light shade. Certified organic. Z3. ME Grown.



7091: 1/\$6.00;
7092: 2/\$11.00;
7093: 3/\$15.50

Lavandula Lavender See #6701.



Panax quinquefolius American Ginseng

Grown for its roots which are much valued for their tonifying and restorative qualities. Stems emerge each spring and form a whorl of three coarsely toothed leaves. Gail says when you see how it emerges from the soil, like a curled-up claw, you know right away that it's powerful. Grows 1-3' tall. Small white star-shaped flowers in summer followed by a bright red fruit. *Fussy about location.* Need 90% shade and deep rich moist well-drained soil in a hardwood-type habitat. Harvest at least four- and preferably six-year-old roots. Organically grown tiny one-year-old rootlets. Z3. ME Grown.

7101: 1/\$9.50;
7102: 2/\$18.00;
7103: 3/\$25.00

Symphytum officinale Comfrey or Knitbone Well-known for its soothing properties. Contains allantoin, promotes healing of skin and bone; also demulcent for lung and throat. Hanging bell-like pink flowers much loved by bumblebees open in early summer. Stem and leaves covered with bristly hairs. Easy-to-grow vigorous plant demands space; *can be very invasive*; be careful where you plant it; control with regular harvest. 24-48" tall. Plant 16-24" apart in average well-drained soil, sun or shade. Grown without synthetic fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides in China, ME. Z3. ME Grown.

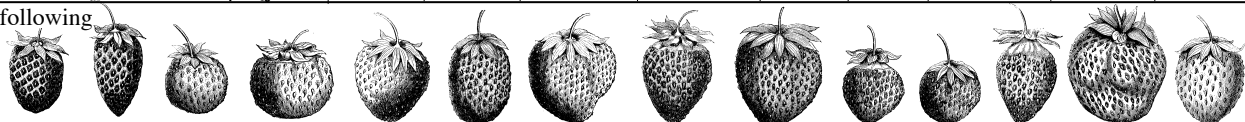
7111: 1/\$4.25;
7112: 3/\$11.00;
7113: 6/\$19.50



Item	Name	Fedco-Coop Grown	Zone	For Wet Spots	For Shady Spots	For Dry Spots	For Wildlife	Vining	Specimen	Hedges	Ground Covers
1384	American Plum		3				◆			◆	
2260	Lowbush Blueberry		2	◆		◆	◆				◆
2280ff	Highbush Blueberry	⊗	4	◆			◆			◆	
2370	Grapes	some	3				◆	◆			
2562	Anne Raspberry		4				◆			◆	◆
2566	August Red Raspberry	⊗	3				◆			◆	◆
2603	Pathfinder	⊗	3-4				◆			◆	◆
2660	Killarny Raspberry		4				◆			◆	◆
2685	Nova Raspberry		3				◆			◆	◆
2690	Prelude Raspberry		4				◆			◆	◆
2700	Royalty Purple Raspberry		3-4				◆			◆	
2829ff	Kiwi		4				◆	◆			
2890	American Cranberry	⊗	2	◆			◆				◆
2915	Juneberry	⊗	2	◆	◆	◆	◆				
2946	Allegheny Serviceberry	⊗	4	◆	◆	◆	◆				
3000	Cornelian Cherry	⊗	4		◆		◆				
3010	American Persimmon	⊗	4			◆	◆				
3030ff	Hops		3					◆			
3076	Joel Bush Cherry	⊗	3				◆			◆	
3082	Beach Plum	⊗	3			◆	◆			◆	
3100	Nanking Cherry	⊗	2				◆			◆	
3163ff	Elderberry	⊗	3	◆			◆			◆	
3238	Regal Lingonberry	⊗	3				◆				◆
3245	Highbush Cranberry		2	◆	◆		◆			◆	
3270	Balsam Fir	⊗	3		◆	◆	◆			◆	
3282	White Cedar 'Maine Strain'	⊗	3	◆			◆				
3350	Dawn Redwood	⊗	4	◆			◆		◆		
3400	Norway Spruce	⊗	2				◆		◆	◆	
3420	Colorado Blue Spruce	⊗	2				◆		◆	◆	
3530	Red Pine	⊗	3			◆	◆				
3590	American Arborvitae	⊗	2	◆	◆		◆			◆	
3716	Northern Pecan	⊗	4				◆		◆		
3780	Filazel	⊗	4				◆			◆	
3785	American Hazelnut	⊗	4				◆			◆	
3799	Hazelbert Precocious	⊗	4				◆			◆	
3815ff	Black Walnut	⊗	4				◆		◆		
3985	Red Maple	⊗	3	◆			◆		◆		
3990	Sugar Maple		3				◆		◆		
4017	Paper Birch Clump	⊗	3				◆		◆		
4030	Northern Catalpa	⊗	4						◆		
4046	Katsuratree	⊗	4						◆		
4065	Purple Beech	⊗	4				◆		◆		
4080	Brown Ash	⊗	2	◆							
4090	Ginkgo	⊗	3						◆		
4097	Kentucky Coffetree	⊗	3/4				◆		◆		
4114	Tuliptree	⊗	3						◆		
4135	Amur Chokecherry	⊗	2				◆		◆		
4150	Swamp White Oak		3	◆			◆		◆		
4160	Pin Oak	⊗	4	◆			◆		◆		
4170	Red Oak	⊗	4			◆	◆		◆		
4190	Cape Rosier Willow	⊗	4	◆							
4195	Niobe Weeping Willow	⊗	4	◆					◆		
4200	Snake Willow	⊗	5	◆					◆		
4205	American Linden		3				◆		◆		
4215	Valley Forge Elm	⊗	4/5						◆		
4217	Patriot Elm	⊗	4/5						◆		
4240	Redbud		4		◆		◆		◆		
4245	Fringe tree	⊗	3	◆			◆		◆		
4255	Pagoda Dogwood	⊗	3				◆				
4332	Witch Hazel	⊗	3	◆	◆		◆				
4512ff	Crabapples	⊗	4				◆		◆		
4889	Goat Pussy Willow	⊗	3	◆			◆			◆	
4912	Japanese Tree Lilac	⊗	3			◆			◆		
4923	Camperdown Elm	⊗	4-5						◆		
4927	Fragrant Abelia	⊗	4						◆	◆	
4930	White Forsythia	⊗	4							◆	
4961	Red Chokeberry		4	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆
4968	Black Chokeberry	⊗	3	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆

Item	Name	Fedco-Coop Grown	Zone	For Wet Spots	For Shady Spots	For Dry Spots	For Wildlife	Vining	Specimen	Hedges	Ground Covers
4990ff	Butterfly Bush	☼	4				◆				
5027	Siberian Peashrub	☼	3			◆	◆			◆	
5038	American Bittersweet	☼	3				◆	◆			
5049	Buttonbush	☼	4	◆	◆		◆				
5055ff	Flowering Quince	☼	4/5				◆			◆	
5069	Ruby Spice Summersweet	☼	3	◆	◆		◆			◆	
5078	Sweetfern	☼	2	◆		◆					◆
5116	Royal Purple Smokebush	☼	4			◆			◆		
5138	Meadowlark Forsythia	☼	3						◆	◆	
5157	Large Fothergilla	☼	4	◆	◆					◆	
5168	Annabelle Hydrangea	☼	3		◆						
5172	Endless Summer Hydrangea	☼	4		◆				◆	◆	
5182	Limelight Hydrangea	☼	3-4		◆				◆	◆	
5186	Pee Gee Hydrangea	☼	4		◆				◆	◆	
5189ff	Winterberry	some	4	◆			◆			◆	
5204	Henry's Garnet Sweetspire	☼	4	◆		◆				◆	
5209	Japanese Kerria	☼	4		◆						
5210	Beautybush	☼	4						◆		
5215	Spicebush	☼	4	◆	◆		◆				
5222	Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle		3		◆		◆	◆			
5240	Bayberry	☼	2			◆	◆			◆	
5267	Blizzard Mockorange	☼	3						◆		
5288ff	Potentilla	☼	2	◆		◆				◆	
5324	Lollipop Azalea	☼	4		◆		◆				
5329f	Azalea	☼	3/4		◆						
5337	PJM Elite Rhododendron	☼	4		◆						
5342	Fragrant Sumac	☼	3		◆		◆			◆	◆
5345	Staghorn Sumac	☼	2			◆	◆			◆	◆
5350	Rosa rugosa	☼	2			◆	◆			◆	◆
5369	Blanc Double de Coubert		3			◆			◆	◆	
5389	Champlain Rose		4			◆			◆	◆	
5394	Charles Albanel Rose		2/3			◆	◆				◆
5439	Henry Kelsey Rose	☼	3			◆				◆	
5474	Magnifica Rose		4			◆	◆		◆	◆	
5479	Marie Bugnet Rose		3			◆				◆	
5488	Morden Blush Rose	☼	3			◆	◆		◆	◆	
5493	Morden Sunrise Rose		4			◆			◆		
5533	The Fairy	☼	4			◆			◆		
5534	Therese Bugnet Rose	☼	3			◆			◆	◆	
5568	Black Pussy Willow	☼	4	◆			◆				
5577	Blue Leaf Arctic Willow	☼	3	◆			◆			◆	◆
5589ff	Elder	☼	4	◆			◆		◆	◆	
5617	Spirea		4							◆	
5720	White Snowberry	☼	3		◆		◆				
5728ff	Lilac	☼	2,3,4			◆				◆	
5940	Snowball Viburnum	☼	4	◆			◆		◆	◆	
5958	Carnival Weigela		3/4						◆		
5985	Aunt Dee Wisteria	☼	4					◆			
6251	Yarrow		3			◆					
6301	Jack-in-the-Pulpit		4		◆						
6351	Lily of the Valley		2		◆	◆					◆
6461ff	Ferns		2,3	◆	◆						◆
6531	Daylily	most	2						◆		◆
6601	Hibiscus		4			◆			◆		
6611	Hostas		3		◆				◆		◆
6671	Siberian Iris	☼	3	◆					◆		
6701	Lavender	☼	3			◆					
6801	Bee Balm		3	◆							
6881	Tree Peony		4						◆		
6921	Russian Sage		4/5			◆					
7041	Canadian Ginger		3	◆	◆						◆
7051	Astragalus	☼	4			◆					
7061	Black Cohosh	☼	3	◆	◆						
7081	Echinacea	☼	3			◆					

ff = and following



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- Several apples
- Mesabi cherry
- Hybrid plum collection
- Marquette grape
- Regal lingonberry
- American elms
- Henry Luce crabapple
- Azaleas
- Rhododendron
- Black Beauty elder
- Carnival weigela
- 'Terra Cotta' yarrow
- Butterfly Weed
- Several new daylilies
- Hostas 'June' & 'Liberty'
- 'Chartreuse Bounty' iris
- 'Delilah' phlox

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